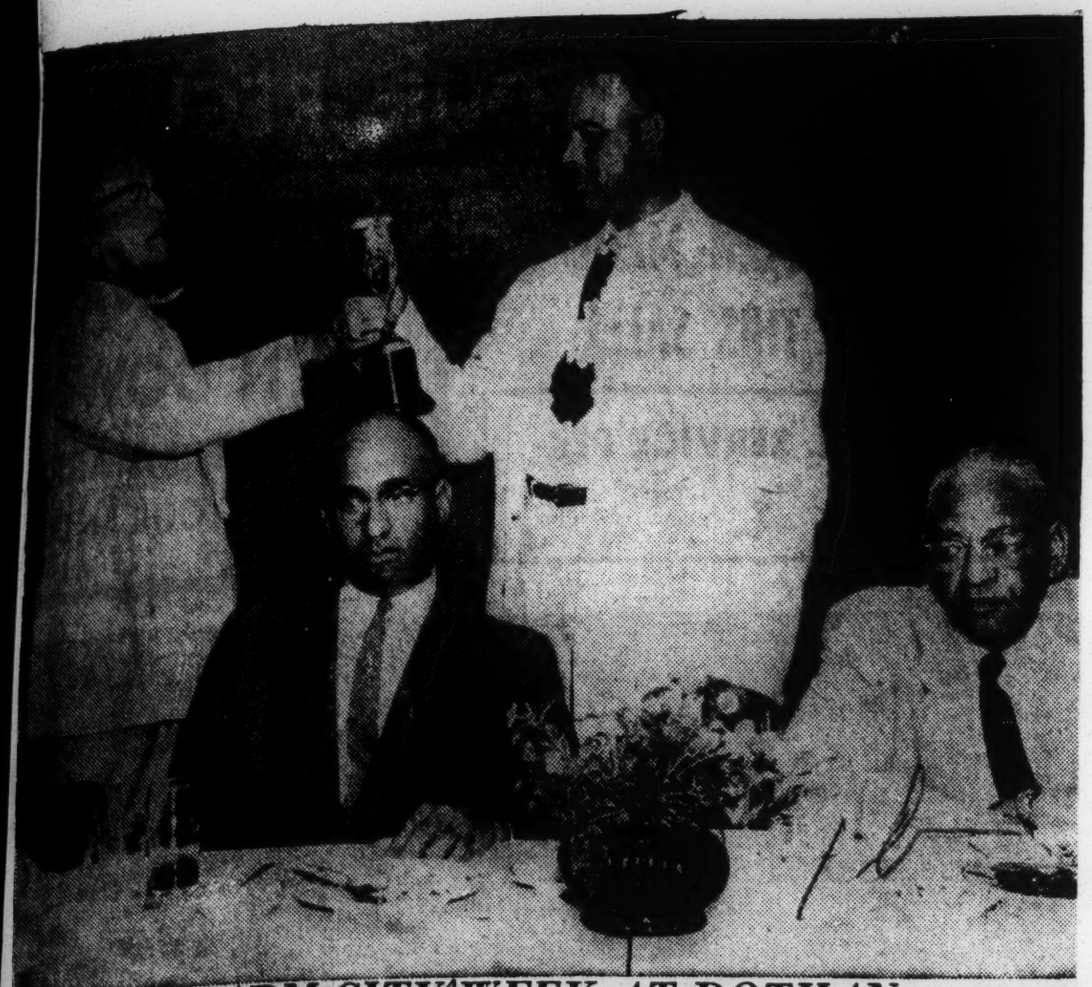


FARM-CITY WEEK AT DOTHAN

The Montgomery Advertiser Montgomery Ala

Standing left to right, John Glanton Sr., Member of the Renaissance Club, presents a beautiful trophy to Fay Callens during a luncheon hour program at William Washington Hotel, Dothan. This marks the third time Callen has been recognized by the club on the outstanding job he is doing in farming. Sitting, left to right, Dr. G. W. Taylor, district agent, Alabama Extension Service, Tuskegee Institute, was guest speaker for the kick-off for Farm-City Week.

1b 1959

ALABAMA

ACCRUEMENT STARTS

Alabama Journal
Montgomery, Ala.
Wed 12-2-59

Macon To Receive $1 Per Acre From Forest

Macon County will receive an estimated $1 per acre per year income from the new 10,777-acre Tuskegee National Forest, Alabama National Forest Supervisor R. L. Chipman said here today.

The Tuskegee land use project has been established as a national forest, the Atlanta regional office of the U. S. Forestry Service announced yesterday, under terms of a proclamation signed by President Eisenhower.

The land, about two miles east of Tuskegee, was acquired by the federal government in 1936-38 under the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenancy Act and has been under the control of the Soil Conservation Service.

Chipman said the land when acquired was mainly eroded area, but is now producing forest land under work done by the East Alabama Soil Conservation district.

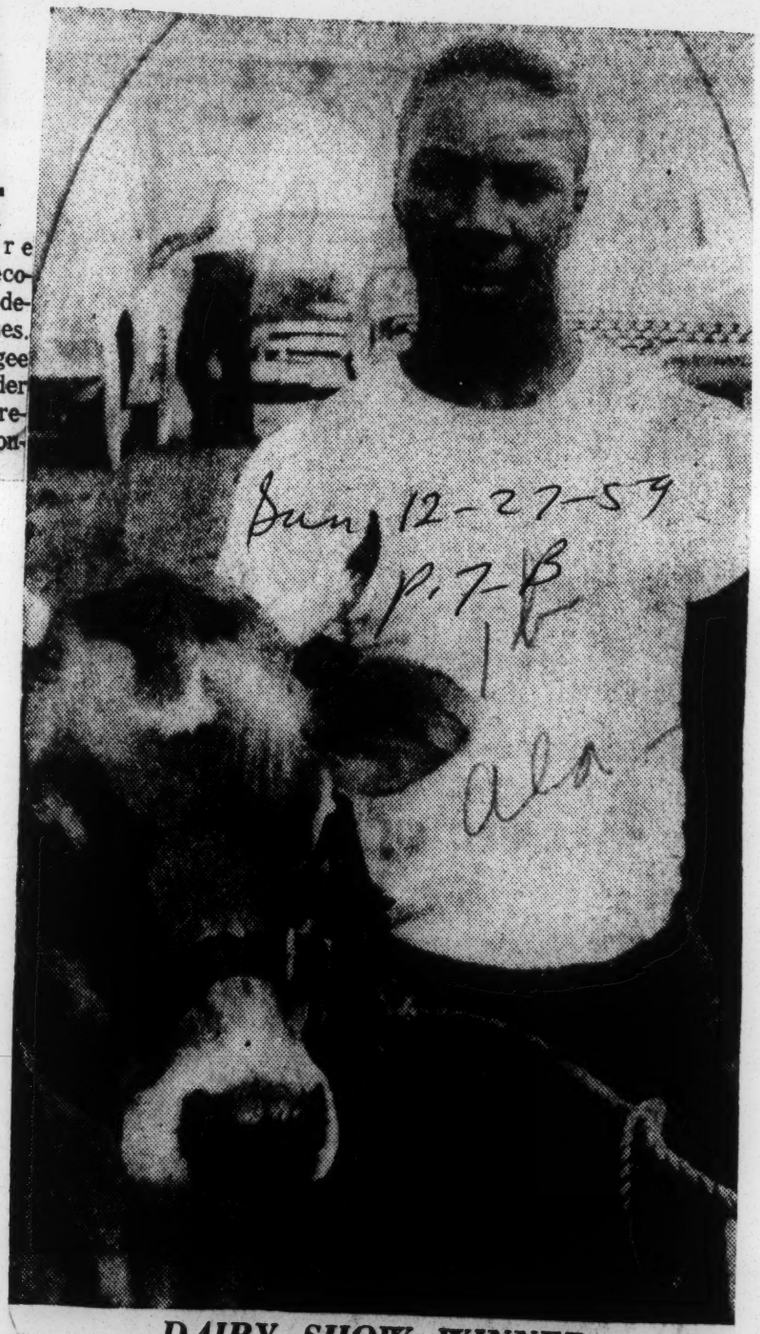
Income from the area is beginning to accrue, Chipman said, from timber sales and grazing rights. Twenth-five per cent of the revenue will go to Macon County, and present income levels indicate this share will be about $1 per acre.

The East Alabama Soil Conservation District has had the tract under lease from the SCS since December 1949. The district has followed approved practices in grazing, hay cutting, cropping and timber cutting to improve the timber stands.

Control of the area was transferred in 1954 to the U. S. Forestry Service, but management has continued under the Soil Conservation District. The arrangement will continue, Chipman said, now that the area has been made a national forest.

"The area will still be managed and controlled to provide grazing and timber products as in the past," Chipman said.

Original purpose of the Bankhead-Jones Act was to retire marginal farm lands from uneconomic agricultural use and devote them to forestry purposes. Management of the Tuskegee tract and others acquired under the act has been aimed at restoring productivity and demonstration of proper land use.



Sun 12-27-59
P. 7-B
1

DAIRY SHOW WINNER

The Montgomery Advertiser

Prince Rodgers, 4-H'er of Talladega County, poses with his prize-winning Jersey cow. He won an all expense-paid, out-of-state trip with his entry.

1b 1959

Farm Census Questionnaires Being Mailed To Farmers Of This Area

The Tuskegee News
Tuskegee, Ala.
Dec 31 1959
p 6

Questionnaires for the 1959 Census of Agriculture are now in the mail and will be in the hands of local farmers within a few days, it was announced today by Field Director Meredith A. Bass of the Census Bureau's regional office in New Orleans.

The farm census questionnaires are being mailed from Chicago, Illinois with the distribution timed so that the report forms will reach farmers about a week ahead of the date when census takers will begin the field canvass. The advance mailing is for the purpose of giving farm operators time to consult their records before filling in the answers required by the questionnaires and getting them ready for the census takers to pick up. This procedure is designed to insure greater accuracy of reporting and to save time both for the farmer and the census taker when the latter calls at the farm.

The 1959 Census of Agriculture questionnaire is designed to provide information on the number and size of farms, acreage and harvest of crops, livestock production and inventories, selected farm facilities and equipment, selected farm expenditures, farm values, and mortgage debt. On the average, each farmer is asked about 100 questions, many of which can be answered by simply checking "yes" or "no".

Soil Testing Month Aimed At Boosting Farm Income

BY BILL FOREHAND

February has been designated Soil Testing Month on Macon County and County Agent Bolling's office is calling on all other agricultural agencies to encourage farmers to utilize this simple means of vastly increasing farm income this year.

S. T. Sego, a confirmed believer in soil testing was among the first to respond to this month's emphasis on soil testing. This week he brought 20 samples into County Agent J. M. Bolling's office. The samples were taken from land he intends to plant cotton this year.

Sego and sons have used soil testing for several years to insure that they use the proper amount and blend of fertilizer elements in their fields. They are among the top cotton producers in Macon County.

Sego and sons were among several Macon farmers who last year averaged a saving of $4.90 per acre in fertilizer costs and increased their cotton yields at the same time.

Marn farmers are using a high rate of fertilizer per acre, but it may not be of the proper kind. Lime is often a hit or miss factor in production. A soil test eliminates the guess work.

Many farmers have had their soil tested in prior years, but should do so again because the carry-over elements in the soil change from year to year, and it is necessary to re-test to determine the proper blend of NPK needed for a particular type of crop.

Soil testing is important on pasture land as well as on land to be cultivated. It should be done in adequate time to spread lime if lime is recommended.

Soil testng is also important to the home owner who is interested in improving his lands, shrubs and flowers. Many of his problems can be solved by the use of the proper kinds and amounts of plant food.

SOIL SAMPLING SHOWN—As a part of the observance of Soil Testing Month in Macon County, County Agent J. M. Bolling is shown instructing William Sego how to take soil samples. S. T. Sego and sons have submitted 20 samples for laboratory analysis. The $1 each invested for a soil test last year saved several Macon farmers an estimated $50 each in fertilizer costs besides increasing yields.

No Price Support To Farmers Who Overplant Cotton

Farmers who overplant their 1959 cotton allotment and do not dispose of the excess acreage after being notified will be ineligible for government price support on all cotton produced on the farm; states Mr. Cunningham, chairman of the Macon County ASC committee.

Mr. Cunninghan states that cotton farmers who chose the Choice (A) allotment for their farm could be penalized to a considerable degree if they do not dispose of the excess cotton. The reason for this he stated is that if a farmer in this group stays overplanted he forfeits his right to receive the price support of not less than 80 percent of parity and would have to sell his cotton on the market at a price which could be considerably less than the support price.

In addition, says Mr. Cunningham, farmers who remain overplanted will be subject to a marketing quota penalty on each pound of excess cotton. The rate of penalty will be 50 precent of the June 15, 1959 parity price. In 1958 the penalty rate was 19.3 cents per pound.

Chairman Cunninmham pointed out that the cotton farmers with excess cotton acreage have 15 days after the date of the county committee's original notice of excess cotton acreage in which to dispose of the excess acreage. Also any request for remeasurement of overplanted farms must be made within 15 days from the date the notice of overplanting is mailed.

FIRST BALE OF SEASON

Mrs. Guice Sells Cotton At Auction For $1 Pound

By E. P. WALLACE

One dollar per pound is what Mrs. Minnie Brown Guice received for her 424-pound bale of cotton Wednesday when it was auctioned to the highest bidder on Commerce street.

Buying the one and one sixteenth staple length fibre was Carl Bear, chairman of the local Chamber of Commerce, upon bidding $1, topping a 99 cent bidder just prior to his count.

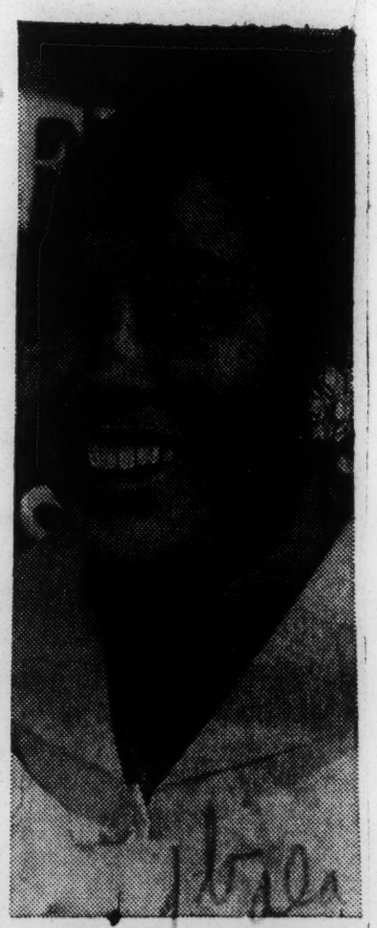
It was stated that Mrs. Guice, formerly Mrs. Brown, is now enjoying the fifth distinction of ginning the first bale of cotton in Montgomery County. She lives in the Mt. Meigs community where she holds membership in the Ebenezer Baptist Church.

R. F. Jones, local county agent, reported that Mrs. Guice is a member of the Montgomery County-wide Growers Assn.; Farm and Home Development Demonstration; worthy matron of Frank's Pride Chapter No. 668, OES, and an active member of the Mt. Meigs Adult Class of which Joseph L. Williams is instructor.

Mrs. Guice lives with her husband, Sidney Guice and two adopted children, at Rt. 5, Box 303-H, Montgomery.

Auctioneer was R. C. "Red" Bamberg, State Agriculture Commissioner, who commended Mrs. Guice and husband for their successful effort in producing the cotton and winning the crown.

Among local leaders sharing the auctioning scene were Addre Bryant, assistant county agent; Joseph L. Williams, agriculture instructor, Mt. Meigs; the Rev. D. B. Lambert and Lorenious McDonald, assistant extension editor, Tuskegee Institute.



MRS. M. B. GUICE

Ginning the first bale of cotton for 1959 was Mrs. Minnie Brown Guice of Mt. Meigs, above, who was present Wednesday, when it was auctioned.

LABOR SUPPLY INADEQUATE

Montgomery Advertiser

Irrigation To Step Up Cotton Yield In Macon

Montgomery, Ala.

Sun. 10-25-59

By JACK BOLLING

Macon County Farm Agent

TUSKEGEE — The general farming picture in Macon County in 1959 has been somewhat different as compared to past years due to several causes. As a result of the Soil Bank program, many farmers have had to change their operations, but probably one of the greatest influences of change has been the lack of efficient labor.

Farmers planted approximately 14,700 acres of cotton out of approximately 16,000 acres which were allotted to the county. This reduction in acreage has been due partly to labor problems and is partly an after effect of the 1958 Acreage Reserve Program. We estimated the yield of cotton to be approximately 375 lbs. per acre which is under the 1958 yield. Corn yields will be off due to adverse weather conditions, the acreage being about the same as in past years.

Our greatest increases in the county have been along the lines of improved pasture, livestock production, and a new phase of cotton production — that of irrigation. Macon County will have approximatly 1,000 acres of cotto under irrigation this year that are on about ten farms. At a recent meeting with agricultural workers from Alabama and other states, at which time they visited Macon County, several of the farmers doing irrigation reported that they are convinced that they can produce an extra bale of cotton per acre from irrigation together with other improved practices. These farmers this year will produce an average of approximately two bales per acre. The goal in the county is to increase irrigated cotton acreage to 3,000 acres within the next three years which will mean an come to the county from increased cotton production.

Macon County is rapidly expanding its beef cattle program along with its feed and grazing crops. It is estimated that Macon County has 32,000 head of beeef cattle.

Beef Best Income Source—

The Tuskegee News

Farm Income In County Increases Over $500,000 In 1959, Says Agent

Tuskegee, Ala. Thurs. 11-19-59

P. 1

Income from the sale of crops, livestock, timber and other agricultural commodities is still the largest source of income to Macon County, reports J. M. Bolling, County agent.

A summary of the year's results in agriculture shows that farmers have produced a farm cash income of $7,676,820 this year. This income compares with $7,149,354 produced in 1958 and $5,184,000 in 1957.

J. M. BOLLING

Here are some other facts which are worth reviewing. For 1959 the average per farm gross income will be $4,325.00. There are now 1,775 farms producing crops, livestock and timber and other related crops on approximately 300,000 acres of land.

The average per-acre gross income from crop land, pasture, and timber land will be approximately $24.76.

From the October issue of the Agricultural News, it was reported that Alabama farmers will have an average per farm net income of $1,595.00. This compares with the nation's net income of $2,767.00.

The sources that go to make up this agricultural income in Macon County for 1959 are. Beef cattle, $3,640,000; cotton, $1,795,985; forestry products, $475,000; dairying, $390,000; fruits, nuts and vegetables, $296,000; poultry, $276,700; seed and grain, $275,000; hogs, $160,000; Conservation Reserve payments, $38,836; other, $15,000.

This year 1,470 farmers will harvest 14,673 acres of cotton which will average approximately 350 lbs. of lint per acre or a total of 9,734 bales. A summary just completed of the irrigated cotton in Macon County this year shows that those farmers will produce 726 lbs. of lint per acre as compared with 356 lbs. of lint on non-irrigated cotton on the same farms. This production is twice that of the average production for the county.

Beef cattle, which produces the largest source of agricultural income in the county, has made tremendous progress during the last ten years. From the land devoted to beef cattle production, the average gross income per acre is approximately $24.26. We now have approximately 35,000 head of beef cattle in Macon County. From the land that is still available for the production of feed and grazing crops, there is no reason why beef cattle cannot be increased to the point where another million dollars income can be added to the county's agricultural bank account.

Corn production is estimated at 25 bushels per acre this year which is a reduction from last year's 30 bushel average. Although some farms in the county produced as high as 75 bushels per acre where weather conditions and other factors were more favorable.

The poduction of pecans is about on an average with 1958, but considerably above the state and national average. Many farmers are realizing a nice income from the production of pecans where good production practices are followed.

Timber production is still an important part of our agricultural program. This year farmers will set out approximately 1½ million pine trees to increase the county's timber production.

The income from poultry and hogs is somewhat lower in the county this year due to a drop off in prices, although farmers are using these commodities as supplementary sources of income on same farms where other types of agriculture are being carried on.

Even the number of farms have decreased from 2,504 in 1949 to 1775 in 1959, we have, at the same time, inceased the cash farm income from approximately $5,000,000 to $7,500,000.

In 1940 one farmer in the Unietd States was producing enough food for himself and approximately 10 to 11 other persons. Today he is producing enough food for himself and ap- to 25 other persons. This goes to show how many persons are dependent upon a few producers of agricultural commodities for their food and fiber.

Alabama Gets Cotton Increase

Daily Decatur, Ala.

Tu. 10-16-59

P. 1

Nearly 4,000 Acres Added To Total For 1960

WASHINGTON (AP)—Alabama was granted an increase of nearly 4,000 acres in state cotton planting allotments for 1960 announced by the Agriculture Department.

The planting allotments were announced under a control program designed to prevent excessive production.

The program was announced by Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson Wednesday, when the allotments for the nation as a whole were announced as 16,310,000 acres, the same as last year.

Alabama's allotment for 1960 was set at 989,046 acres compared to 985,191 for 1959.

The state allotment will be apportioned among counties and individual farms under a farm law formula.

Southeastern states granted an increase in cotton planting allotments besides Alabama are Arkansas, Florida, Georgia and Mississippi.

California and Texas were among states where allotments were reduced.

California's allotment was trimmed from 733,618 acres to 728,202, while the allotment in Texas was cut from 6,846,757 acres to 6,817,477 acres.

The state allotments are based on plantings during a previous five year period. Thus allotments for 1959 are based on the average of state plantings during the 1953-57 years.

The allotments for 1960 were based on average plantings for the 1954-58 years.

Bumper Crops Recorded—

State Farm Production For 1958 Has Total Value Of $513 Million

BY BOB CHESTNUTT

AUBURN, Ala.—Farmers have witnessed one of the best production years in the history of Alabama agriculture during 1958 Total cash income at $513 million was far above the previous high of $472 million in 1955 and 26 per cent above the 1957 total of $406 million.

Livestock and poultry accounted for $268 million, Farm Economist Foy Helms of the API Extension Service reported here Last year, livestock and poultry earnings were $231 million.

Cotton and peanuts soared upward to gain back the prestige lost in 1957 when these two crops —dropped to a measly $118 million. This year's total income from the two crops is estimated at $143 million.

Helms estimated that the total 1958 crop income will run about $245 million, with peanuts bringing in around $23 million of this figure and income from cotton land—both rented and planted—producing $120 million.

Farmers rented 47 per cent of their alloted cotton acreage to Uncle Sam for a little more than $35 million. Add this to the $85 million from 450,000 bales harvested this year and you get the $120 million cotton income. Cotton averaged 403 pounds of lint per acre this year.

Just how smart farmers have been in renting their cotton land to the government may be questioned, but it made certain a very good return on their investment from those acres rented.

On the other hand, the many, many days of wasted labor cannot be discounted and may be reflected in the action of many farmers next year. Moreover, many thousands of the nearly one-half million acres rented to Uncle Sam can now be observed in head-high weeds, and the seed from these will rise up another year to greatly increase farm costs when the land is returned to cotton or other crops.

Five new records were achieved in per-acre yields of crops grown this year. These were corn, potatoes, peanuts, hay and grain sorghum.

The new record in corn production is 22 bushels per acre; potatoes, 104 cwt.; peanuts, 1,075 pounds; hay, 1.04 tons; and grain sorghum, 21 bushels. The record yields of corn, hay and grain sorghum add up to a record supply of home-produced feed for Alabama livestock.

Beef cattle, hogs, and poultry all achieved new highs in total cash receipts from sales.

Poultry and poultry products totaled an estimated $100 million; beef cattle $80 million; hogs, $5(million; and dairying, $35 million Helms estimated the total 195(poultry and livestock income from all sources at about $26(million from all crops and livestock.

Macon County Farmers Lay Plans For Expanding Crop Irrigation Systems

BY MILTON A. DOUGLAS and REX McLENDON

Macon County farmers are laying plans for expanding their irrigation system and otherwise improving soil and water conservation practices to be carried out on their farms this year.

Leveling land for furrow irrigation is one of the practices that is gaining more interest each year in this county. Soil conservation service personnel has already made topographical surveys in the last two months on five fields that will be ready to irrigate this year. Three of these fields have already eben designed and construction work started.

Engelhardt and Thompson, Shorter, who irrigated about 70 acres of cotton in 1958, are in the process of leveling 50 more acres. They plan to have about 100 more acres ready for irrigation by planting time.

Joe and Kelly Sistrunk Society Hill, are leveling about 15 acres. They hope to have about 20 acres ready to irrigate in the Spring. Their water supply cames from wo ponds that have been used in the past to sprinkle irrigate the same fields.

O. G. Pinkston, Jr., Shorter, who irrigated 15 acres of cotton last year, is leveling about 35 acres more. The water supply for this field will come out of the Tallapoosa River.

Ben Walker, Milstead, who is the pioneer of furrow irrigation in this county, plans to level about 40 acres more this Spring. This 40 acres will increase the cotton being irrigated on his farm to about 165 acres.

Construction ditches to drain wet areas is another soil and water conservation practice needed on many farms in Macon County. Mrs. D. G. Johnson, Hardaway, constructed 4000 feet of ditches on one of the fields on her farm in December. These ditches are designed to drain wet areas on crop land. The drainage system will not only drain the wet areas but will provide an outlet to carry row water from the remainder of the field. The ditches will be establisheed in bahia grass in the Spring to prevent erosion.

Farmers May Get Measuring Service

Macon County cotton and peanut growers particpating in the conservation reserve can arrange for official measurement of their 1959 farm cotton and peanut acreage allotments, as well as Soil Bank base crops under the conservation reserve program prior to planting time, the County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee announced this week.

To get the premeasurement service, which is being provided on a cost basis, a farmer must file a written request with the County ASC office prior to Feb. 15 for allotment crops and permitted soil bank base crops under the conservation reserve program, said Mr. T. R. Cunnngham, committee chairman. The rate to be charged for the service in Macon County has been established at $6 for each farm, plus 60 cents per acre for each acre or a fraction thereof in excess of five acres up to 50 acres, and 30 cents per acre for each acre or fraction thereof in excess of 50 acres. Payment based on this rate must be made at the time the request for premeasurement is filed.

Farmers Must Make Allotment Choice

The next important date for upland cotton producers is the March 16 deadline for making a choice between the (A) allotment and the (B) allotment for their farms, according to Troop Cunningham, chairman of the County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee. All cotton farm operators have been sent a notice of the price support levels and a reminder of the (A) and (B) allotments for their farms.

Mr Cunningham urged all cotton farmers to make their choice of cotton allotments by the deadline on March 16. After that date all farms on which the operator has not made a choice will have the (A) allotment in effect for 1959. This is a requirement of the law and cannot be changed by the County ASC Committee. Another requirement is that a farm operator has more than one farm must choose one allotment for all his farms. Mr. Cunningham suggests that an operator who has an interest in other farms because of leasing, corporate, partnership, estate, or other operating arrangements should check with the county ASC office to determine his status on all the farms.

County Farmers Urged To Use All Their Cotton Allotment

Home News
Talladega Ala.
June 25-59

An appeal to Talladega County farmers to plant their full allotment of cotton was made at a mass meeting of farmers at the county Courthouse by a state official and local leaders.

"Red" Bamberg, state commissioner of agriculture and industry and County Agent O. V. Hill called for full use of the county's alloted cotton acreage.

The standing room only session was described by Mr. Hill as the "largest group we've had at a cotton meeting in 10 years."

"The soil bank is one of the worst things to come to the South since the Civil War," Mr. Bamberg said.

"It has certainly hurt our people."

The featured speaker, the Uniontown farmer charged that there is a "conspiracy" in Washington to take cotton from the Southeastern farmer and give it to the West.

A recent trip to Washington with Gov. Patterson and other Alabama officials was "depressing."

The U.S. Department of Agriculture is opposed to "leasing" legislation, and there is no hope of such a bill being passed for this year, he said. "We are hopeful about 1960."

A statement by a Department official, given in the Congressional record, that the benefits of leasing would not be worth the administrative difficulties it would cause were termed by the state comissioner as "the most damnable sentence I've read."

In Alabama, 97,000 of the cotton contracts are for 10 acres or less "and you can't make a living on that.

"People are being forced off the farm."

In 1958 about 50% of the Alabama cotton acreage was rented to the government.

"If we don't do better (plant more cotton) this year the western congressmen will come up with an argument that the Southeast doesn't want cotton because its farmers haven't been planting it."

"We've got the climate, the land, the mills and the market here and we need to plant the cotton."

Of Alabama's 1,035,000 allotment last year, about half was rented to the government and brought in about 30½ million dollars.

If the land had been cultivated, the income would have been 75 million dollars, Mr. Bamberg said.

About half of the farmers crowding the small courtroom said they wished to have more acreage than they have.

Mrs. Julia Heaton was applauded after an announcement that she would turn in four acres she did not need to the county committee.

Mr. Bamberg was introduced by Rep. Bill Nichols of Sylacauga.

Starting the discussion, County Agent O. V. Hill said the county has about 200 beef cattle producers; 200 in poultry; 100 dairymen and between 1600-1700 cotton producers.

Regulations on releasing cotton acreage were read by Grady Parker of the Agriculture Stabilization and Conservation office.

In response to several comments, that the regulations were all wrong Mr. Parker pointed out "I don't make the law; I'm just telling you what it is."

"We can't emphasize too much that those getting cotton acreage must plant it or let someone have it who will, for the benefit of the county and the South," Mr. Hill said.

Mr. Parker said: "The county committee does not want the county to lose one acre this year."

In the past 10 years it has lost almost 50% of its acreage.

Soybean Crop Moving South

Mississippi County Ahead Of Nation By Production Of 8,077,000 Bushels

By LLOYD DINKINS

Soybeans are moving south.

Mississippi County, Ark. is now producing more soybeans than any other county in the United States, Keith Bilbrey, county agent said.

Mr. Bilbrey gave the 1958 production yield of the Northeast Arkansas county as 8,077,000 bushels. Before Mississippi County took the lead, he said, Champaign County, Ill was the top producer in the nation.

Dramatic Example

"Soybeans show the most dramatic example of a crop gaining in importance and production," Mr. Bilbrey said, "with a 1939 production figure of only 260,000 bushels.

"The primary reason for this increase in our area is the soil. It is particularly suited for soybeans, containing large amounts of phosphorous and potash, prime requirements of the plant.

"Another factor in the trend is plant improvement. Both Arkansas and Tennessee experiment stations have worked toward developing varieties suited for our area. They came up with the type known as Ogden, which is still the most important variety in our section. Our farmers do not hesitate to keep up with the latest trends, though, and they'll adopt any new varieties which show promise."

Second Crop

He gave as other reasons the suitability of soybeans to mechanical harvesting and the need for a second major crop after cotton acreage allotments went into effect.

Mr. Bilbrey said his production figures were extracts from reports by the crop reporting service.

FARM MACHINERY PAYS OFF — Clint Gordon, left, Earle, Ark. farmer, is discussing with agricultural officials the advantages of his one-man hay baler and other modern equipment, including the grain combine at right and a tractor. These, he says, enable him to catch the weather in raising his own crops, as well as earn extra money doing custom work for his neighbors. He earns an average of $800 a year with the baler, and close to $600 with the combine. Mr. Gordon owns half interest in the baler. Others, left to right: Jesse Mason, county supervisor - at - large for the Farmers Home Administration; Chester S. Durley, Soil Conservation Service technician; and Thomas F. Vaughns, Extension Service county agent.

—USDA Photo

Clint Gordons Make Old Farm Thriving Business

EARLE, Ark. — On the same farm where two families failed, Mr. and Mrs. Clint Gordon of Earle, Ark., have made an outstanding success through hard work and sound credit and guidance provided by the Farmers Home Administration of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

The Gordons worked six years as day laborers and sharecroppers before becoming cash renters in 1941 when they obtained their first credit aid from Farmers Home. It was a small loan to buy fetrilizer, insecticide, and a few other production needs for making a cotton crop.

Over a four-year period, the couple made such a good record in repaying their annual operating loans and in improving their farming methods that the agency approved their application for a loan to buy a farm of their own in 1945.

The only farm for sale in the area was a 45-acre plot on which two Farmers Home borrower families had already failed. But the agency's county committee and supervisor agreed that if anyone could succeed on that small run-down farm, it would be the Gordons.

HARD WORK

The couple knew it would take a lot of hard work, improved drainage, and their best farming know-how. So they got busy digging drainage ditches, applying fertilizer, and fighting grass and boll-weevils.

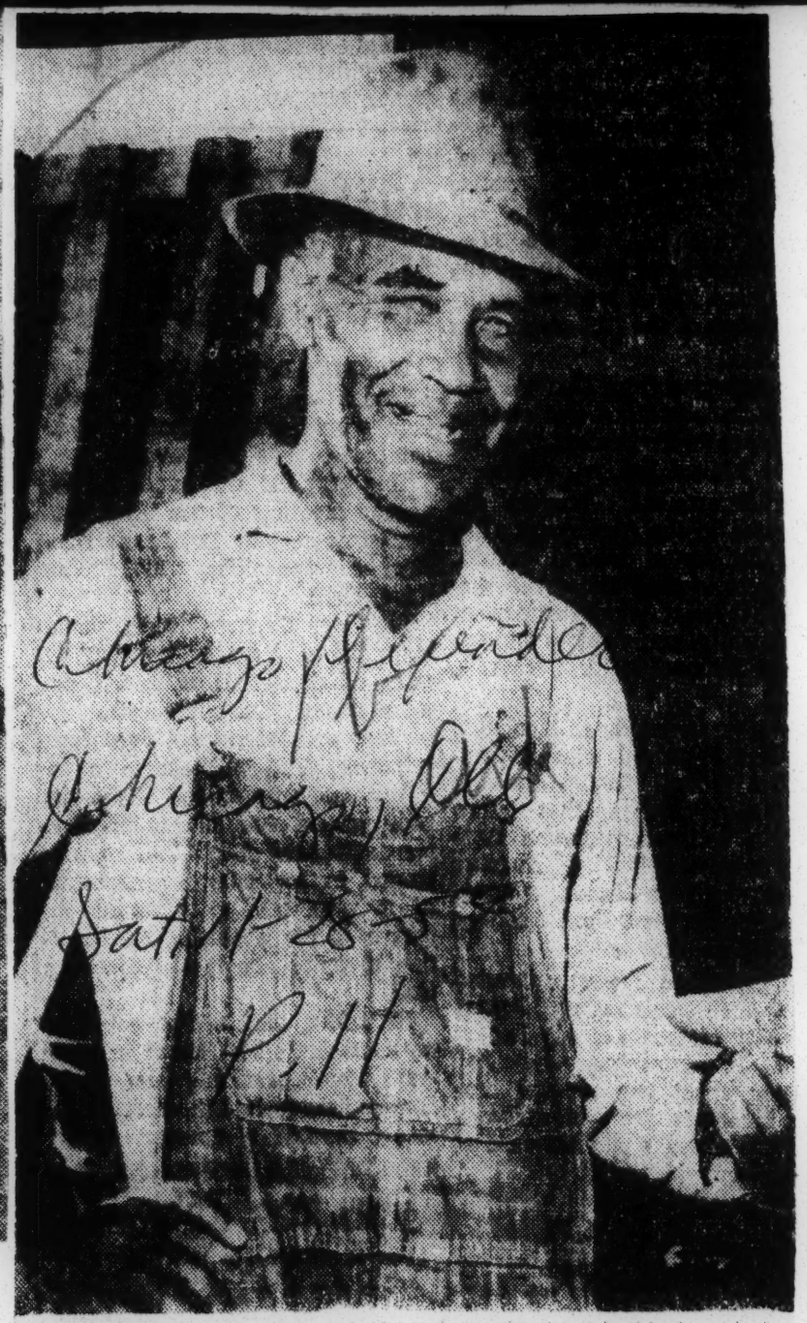
Although the cotton yield rose slightly, wate stil stod in part of the field after each rain. The family knew that stil better drainage was neded for conservation farming. And they aplied to the Agricultural Conservation Program Service for help in providing it.

When ACPS agreed to share in the cost of the drainage, Soil Conservation Service technicians attached to the Crittenden County Soil Conservation District laid out an adequate system of ditches for the farm and supervised the construction.

Later SCS Technicians Chester S. Durley made a conservation map of the farm indicating how best each acre could be used. Gordon followed the map in developing a farm production plan.

Four years ago the Gordons purchased 20 additional acres thorugh Farmers Home. This increased the size of their farm to 65 acres which enables them to make better use of their equipment. They have a tractor, grain combine, cotton duster, and half interest in a one-man hay baler.

CONSERVES HIS SOIL—The sign indicates that Clint Gordon, right, Earle, Ark., conserves his soil and keeps it in good shape for raising crops and livestock. With him are Mrs. Gordon and Soil Conservation Service Technician Chester S. Durley. The Gordons live in the attractive home in background on their 65-acre farm. Home and farm were purchased with credit aid from the Farmers Home Administration of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. — USDA Photo.



CUCUMBERS BRING $700 MORE — Roy Williams, Ouachita County, Arkansas, cotton farmer, is holding a check from the sale of cucumbers. The crop increased his income last year by more than $700. Altogether, 117 white and colored farmers in his county are now raising cucumbers and tomatoes for market as a result of the Rural Development Program. Williams' achievement is reported in Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson's annual RDP report to the President.

Memphis Maps Plans For Gala Cotton Jubilee

'Miss Jubilect' To Be Crowned

MEMPHIS—Frank T. Scott, assistant secretary, S. W. Qualls Funeral Home and 1959 President, and Dr. R. Q. Venson, founder of the Memphis Cotton Makers Jubilee, are directing the final plans for the now famous annual cotton celebration which will be held for a week beginning May 11.

The Jubilee Headquarters is at 393 Beale st.

Dr. Venson, a native of Alexandria, La., but who chose Memphis as home is a dentist, civic worker, church man and Legion naire.

It was appropriate and fitting that W. C. Handy and his family should be the first guests of the Memphis Cotton Makers' Jubilee in 1936. The Venson-Handy friendship existed through the years.

JUBILEE GROWS

The Jubilee has grown into many arteries of activities. Spearheading this intricate net work of activities are the various chairmen, co-chairmen, committee workers, and the many persons who work in their schools and other organizations. Thousands of persons participate in the programs and parades connected with the celebration.

The Jubilect is a work coined by versatile Nat D. Williams, Booker T. Washington history teacher.

From the words, Jubilee and Selection, it simply means that on the night of that program an important selection will be made. At present, it is the selection of the coveted title, "Miss Jubilect."

This honor goes to a high school student. The prize she receives includes an exquisite all-cotton wardrobe. She leads all processions and parades during the celebration.

"Miss Jubilect" for 1959 is lovely Lois Williams, senior at Booker T. Washington High school. Her wardrobe will be presented to her on May 1, in a special program at her school.

Miss Jubilect and her court will ride on a special float in the Grand Jubilee parade. Mrs. R. Q. Venson is chairman.

The Jubilect — the Pre-Jubilee Program — held in February was composed of high school talent. A special feature was the 90-member group of teen-age singers whose talent is widely heralded as the Teen-Town Singers.

They are directed by A. C. Williams, program councilor of WDIA Radio Station.

Nat D. produced the 1959 Jubilect and was supported by a staff of teachers from Hamilton, Lester, Jelrose, Booker T. Washington High schools and Porter Junior High school.

The Committee and the schools they represent are Hamilton — Miss Cornelia Sanders, Mrs. Helen W. Waterford, Mrs. Aline McGuire; Washington — Mrs. Norma Griffen, Miss Cynthis Green; Melrose — Mrs. Ruthie Strong, Mr. Willie Lindsey, Mr. Richard Green, Miss Erma Clanton; Lester — Miss Evelyn Bagsby, Mrs. Frances Duvall, Miss Felcia Martin; and Porter—Miss Yvonne Exum, Miss Eurline Couch.

The Wallace Brothers Shows will cover the Linden Street park and playground. The big show moves in on Saturday, May 9.

MUSIC — a big item . . . with invitations going to both local and out-of-town bands for participation in the three parades, is under new leadership. Onzie Horne, of the Union Protective Assurance Company, and one of the city's better musicians is chairman of music.

New Clippings — pictorial records, and important correspondence, is entrusted to Elmo Berkley, local policeman.

Awards, prizes and special recognition for service come under the supervision of Mrs. Jack (Susie) Hightower, teacher at Hyde Park Elementary school, and Prof. R. T. Hunt, principal, Booker T. Washington.

The Juvenile Royalty Activities—Selection of Junior Royalty — Coronation Ceremonies, the selection of the Royal Court, entertainment for the Their Majesties and parties for the small fry are all under the able direction of Mrs. Calverta Ishmael, owner of Foote Homes Kindergarten.

ROYAL COURT

The Senior Royalty, selection of Their Majesties, the Royal Court; coronation ceremonies, dances, and the fashion show are planned and promoted by Johnson Saulsberry, former King of the Cotton Makers' Jubilee.

The Royal Tour includes visits to schools where invitations have been extended, beautiful homes, businesses, etc. It will be directed by a novice in the Jubilee family, Mrs. Vivian Grafton Ford, the Tri-State Defender's glamorous secretary-cashier.

The Zozo Club, composed of three community Zozo Clubs, each with a teacher, supervisor-advisor, is the Jubilee's pride and joy. This group promotes the sales of tickets to the Jubilect, selects from among the group the Zozo's own highest honor, Mr. and Miss Zozo, hold an annual Masquerade Ball during the celebration, and sponsors a talent scout contest.

The Coronation Parade is composed of local high school bands, royalty, Scouts Clubs, and other participants. It will form at Beale and the Mississippi River and parade down Beale to Wellington to Blair T. Hunt gymnasium where the coronation ceremonies will be held.

Leath and Porter Junior High school will have 50 children, dressed in high color according to their age grouping, for the Coronation ceremonies.

The Royal Tea, where all are expected to sip, chat and relax between the fun and gaiety of other affairs, also is a feature of the occasion.

The Grand Jubilee Parade highlights the finale and colorful and riotous display of beauty and talent. It is where royalty stops off at the Grand Stand, where Nat D. Williams Emcees a fast moving and stirring Jubilee Show, where the city's mayor, other top government and business executives Cotton Carnival officials and dignitaries from other parts of the country view these high stepping rhythm filled youngsters.

That's the 1959 story of the Memphis Cotton Makers' Jubilee Inc.

DR. AND MRS. R. Q. VENSON

North Carolinians Honor Retired Extension Agent

GREENSBORO, N. C. —Several hundred citizens from throughout North Carolina last Saturday paid honor to John W. "Jeff" Jeffries, former assistant State Agent for the A. and T. College Extension Service who retired last month a term of 37 years of service.

They were guests at a luncheon sponsored in his honor by staff members of the local extension group.

THE AFFAIR, held in Murphy Hall at the college, last weekend featured a main address by Dr. I. O. Schaub, Raleigh, former director of the N. C. Extension Service and dean of the school of agriculture at State College from which he retired eight years ago.

Referring to the honoree, Dr. Schaub said in a humorous vein "years ago the successful applicant for a position with the Extension Service must have been good looking, a farmer and possessed of not too much education —'Jeff' met these qualifications." He continued, "But the real qualifications are the same today as they were years ago, — the successful Extension worker must have a genuine love for people and our honoree had that."

Greetings were extended by Warmoth T. Gibbs, president of the college; Mrs. Carrie Wilson, Alamance county home economics agent and J. C. Hubbard, Durham county farm agent.

Miss Wilhelmina Laws, district home agent, presented Jeffries a bound volume of letters of congratulations sent by friends of the honoree.

Honored For 37 Years Service

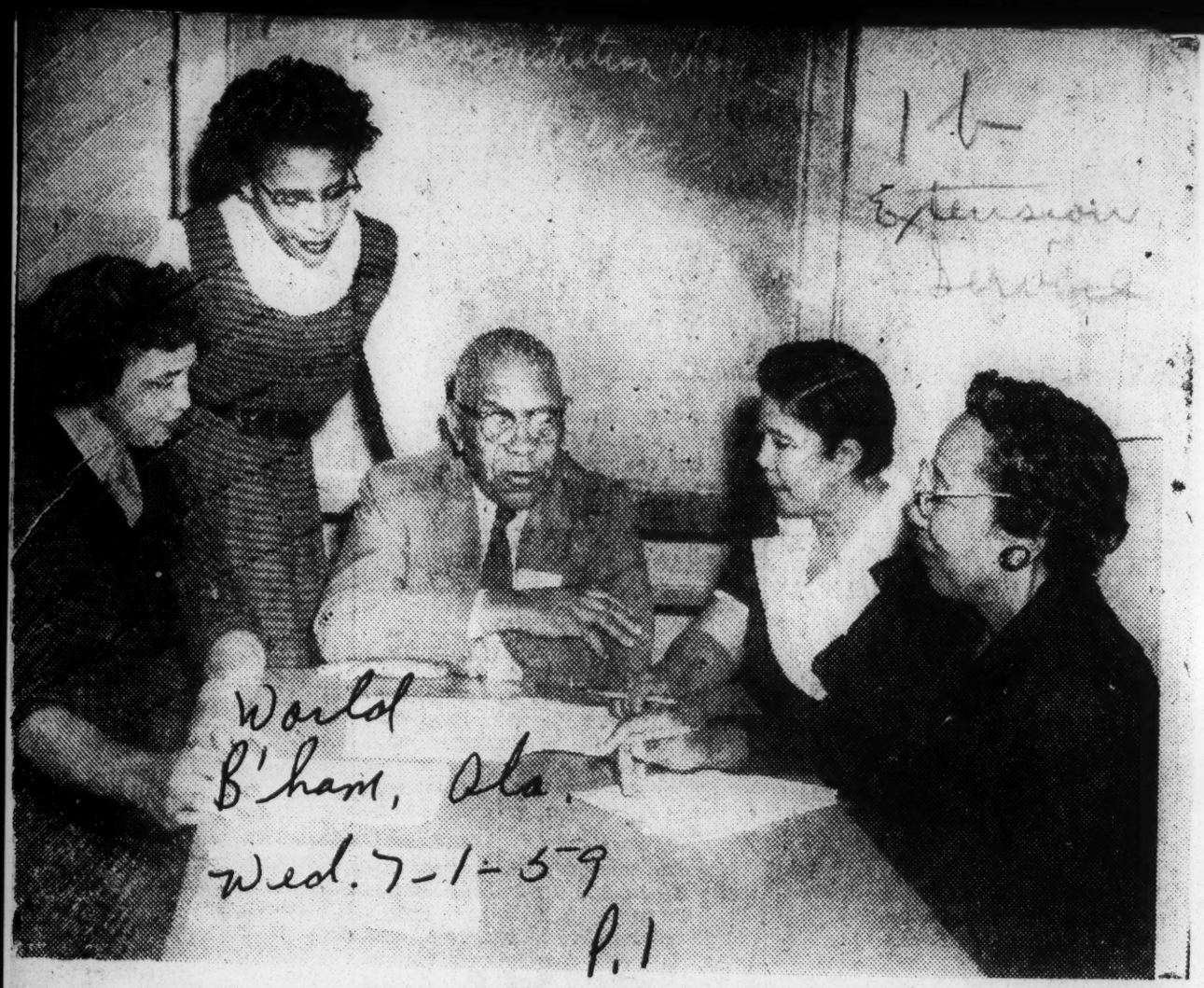
John W. "Jeff" Jeffries, left, retired recently after 37 years with the A. and T. College Extension Service was honored last weekend with a luncheon at A. and T. College. With the honoree are Mrs. Jeffries, D. S. Coltrane, assistant state director of the Budget and Dr. I. O. Schaub, right, former director of North Carolina Extension Service, both of Raleigh.

Heads Extension Work In Texas

COLLEGE STATION, Texas. — (ANP) — Marshall V. Brown, Negro extension worker at Texas A. and M. college since 1937, was named state leader of the work May 1. He had served as acting state leader since April 1, following the retirement of W. C. David.

A graduate of Prairie View A. and M. with the B.S. degree in agricultural education, Brown served as county agricultural agent for Brazoria county from May 1937 until September 1941 when he was transferred to Prairie View as administrative assistant.

He was also acting dean, teacher of vocational agriculture, and dining hall clerk at the college.



PARTING ADVICE — P. H. Stone, who retired on June 30 as a top aide in the Federal Extension Service of the U. S. Department of Agriculture in Washington, D. C., gives parting advice on improved methods of supervision to four of the newer supervisors of Extension home demonstration work. Left to right: Mrs. Cleo S. Walker, Alabama district agent; Mrs. Esther W. Reed, Mississippi district agent; Mr. Stone; Mrs. Mattie T. Copeland, Georgia assistant state supervisor; and Mrs. Marguerite P. Williams, Arkansas district agent. Mr. Stone was a top Georgia U. S. Agriculture Department official before going to Washington.

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.
Sat. 7-18-59
P. 14

Retiring County Agents Paid Tribute

Retiring county agents with the A. and T. College extension service were honored recently by North Carolina State College of the University of North Carolina. Frames certificates, recognition of outstanding service were presented by R. E. Jones, left, state agent in charge of the A. and T. College extension service at the recent annual meeting of extension personnel.

The honorees are, from left to right: J. W. Jeffries of Mebane, district agent; J. C. Hubbard, of Durham, county agent; Mrs. Estelle T. Nixon of Bahama, Durham county home agent: and J. B. Small, Edenton, Chowan county agent.

Top U.S. Extension Aid Retires After 40 Years

WASHINGTON, D. C. — P. H. Stone, a top aide in the Federal Extension Serice of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, retired last week after 40 years in agricultural extension work.

Stone closed his career by teaching a course in supervision in the Southwide graduate training program for extension workers during June at Prairie View, Texas, A and M college.

Prior to going to Prairie View, he was presented a superior service award and a certificate for 40 years of service by Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson who wished him a long and happy retirement.

Both the staff of the federal extension office and a group of his close associates in the department gave him a party and gifts. And the agents from seven states in attendance at Prairie View also gave him a gift.

Stone came to Washington four years ago to succeed the late John W. Mitchell as assistant to the assistant administrator of Federal Extension.

The extension leader was born and reared on a farm near Rocky Mount, Va., and received his training at Hampton Institute and the University of Connecticut.

He began his extension career as a farm demonstration agent in Clarke county, Ga. in 1919 following service in the Army during World War I.

In traveling about his county, the young agent soon recognized that in addition to increased farm production, the people were in need of improved sanitary facilities.

Within a few years he had helped hundreds of families to build sanitary facilities.

This work caught the eye of his supervisor and in 1924 he was promoted to State 4-H club agent for Negro club boys and girls. Two years later he became state supervisor of Negro extension work.

In this position Stone promoted a sound system of farming and homemaking among Negro farm families throughout the state and encouraged 4-H club work.

Soon he began thinking about a Summer camping program for rural boys and girls.

It took years to acquire a site and still more years to provide even makeshift facilities. But Stone and his staff never stopped trying.

Today, the Negro 4-H'ers of Georgia have the best camp in the South — a $400,000 club center at Dublin.

In the Washington office, the extension learer directed the first regional 4-H camp in the nation's capital, developed a systematic training program for extension supervisors, and established improved liaison relations between his office and the state staffs.

Stone is retiring to his home in Savannah, Ga., near the banks of the Savannah river. He says he plans to devote most of his time to fishing and other forms of recreation. He is married and has three sons and three daughters.

Succeeding Stone is A. G. Bacon, form state supervisor of Negro extension work in Georgia.

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.
Wed. 6-3-59

NEW HOME INSPECTION

Top left, Perry Extension Agents L. C. Johnson (left) and Miss O. L. Rayborn (right) a look at new home with Mr. and Mrs. Earl Jackson of Newbern Rt. 1. Top right, Mrs. Ja (left) shows Mrs. Rayborn around the kitchen. Bottom left, Jackson and Johnson look ov old house. Bottom right, the Jacksons' six children join the agents and parents to stud and home improvements.

Veteran Agent In Halifax Has Seen Many Changes

By RUTH MINCHER.

ENFIELD — David J. Knight (called "D. J." by his friends) of Enfield has been serving as Halifax County Negro Extension agent since Sept. 1, 1935.

Although his title is now Negro county agricultural agent, his work is still the same. Under his leadership many changes in the methods of farming, homemaking, food production and conservation and in boys' and girls' 4-H work have taken place.

Born on a farm in Martin County, he grew up as a farm boy, with all of the "dawn to dark" chores that had to be done each day.

"We had farming the hard way," Knight says earnestly, "up all night firing the tobacco barns with wood—none of our modern conveniences."

Knight received his B.S. degree in agriculture from A&T College in Greensboro and his M.S. in dairying at Massachusetts State University in Amherst, Mass. He has also taken special courses.

He helped organize the first New Farmers of America chapter.

Knight began his extension work right in Enfield almost 24 years ago, and the amazing thing is that for several years after he started, he acted as county home demonstration agent too.

For six years he conducted canning clubs for the women.

"My work included practically everything from constructing terraces to making cottage cheese," he chuckles.

Ruth V. Whitworth was appointed the first Negro home demonstration agent in Halifax County in 1941. "They are now called home economics agents," Knight says.

She assists the farm agent with 4-H work and is in charge of the home-making projects.

The enrollment of Halifax County Negro 4-H'ers in 1958 was 1,062 members and 193 leaders, with one special youth group and one Young Men and Women Club in the county.

"One of the main needs when I came to the county," Knight says, "was the need for curing sweet potatoes."

In 1938 he began pushing for taking care of sweet potatoes by the curing method.

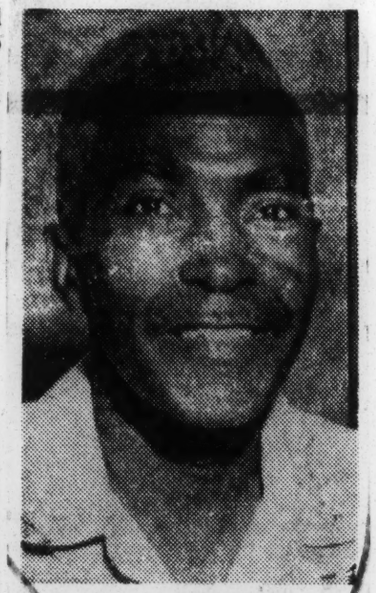
"Now I have some farmers who have as much as 1,000 bushels in a barn with a loss of only about 15 per cent, mostly from shrinkage."

"They find a ready market for them, too," he says.

Knight says that major crops in the area include tobacco, peanuts, and cotton. Corn is raised for livestock, and "soybeans will rank about fifth."

"It is my ambition to get our farmers to live at home just as much as possible," Knight says.

As if his work with farmers and 4-H members didn't keep him busy enough, Knight is active in several local civic and religious groups.



D. J. KNIGHT.

Extension Service chief declares—

Rising demand gives state's farmers a fine opportunity

With demands for farm products constantly increasing, Alabama agriculture has an opportunity to enjoy unprecedented growth, according to Dr. E. T. York, Jr.

Dr. York, head of the Alabama Extension Service, said here Saturday that farming is too often referred to as a "dying business."

Agriculture, obviously, becomes increasingly important with the arrival of each new mouth to feed and each new body to clothe as our population expands, he said.

"THE PRINCIPAL question facing us in Alabama," he said, "is what part are we to play in this inevitable growth."

Dr. York recently succeeded P. O. Davis as director of the Extension Service. A native of DeKalb County, he was head of the agronomy department at North Carolina State College at the age of 31, and more recently was a director of the American Potash Institute in Washington.

While in North Carolina, York owned and operated a 430-acre crop and livestock farm. After going with American Potash, he made a first-hand study of farming conditions in 32 foreign countries.

Alabama agriculture in recent years has been undergoing rapid changes, and the most striking feature of this change has been the shift away from cotton and toward livestock, he said.

IN DISCUSSING Alabama agriculture, York brought out these points:

Twenty-five years ago, Alabama produced 10 per cent of the nation's cotton—today, less than four per cent.

Twenty-five years ago, cotton accounted for at least two-thirds of the state's farm income, while today the figure is only [illegible] per cent.

During this same 25-year period, income from poultry, livestock and their products rose from less than 20 per cent to almost 60 per cent.

OF PRIMARY interest is the effect of these changes on farm income.

In 1958, Alabama farmers had an income of more than $500 million, highest in the state's history. This reflects an increase of 188 per cent over 1935.

However, during the same period, farm income increased in the nation as a whole by 303 per cent. The increase in one state—California—for this period was 420 per cent.

These comparative figures look even more disturbing in view of the fact that Alabama with an average income of $1520 per farm in 1958 ranked 45th among the states.

Alabama has fallen behind many of the other states in farm income because gains in poultry and livestock production, although large, have not offset losses in cotton and other crops.

ALABAMA'S cotton acreage last year reached its lowest point since the Civil War period. The acreage last year was 77 per cent below that planted in the mid-thirties.

This decline has been due to many factors, most of which can be attributed to low yields.

Although the average cotton yield during the past five years has been the highest in lint per acre—the improvement has been even more notable in other areas.

California, for instance, averaged 950 pounds per acre during this five-year period.

During the past 20-year period during which cotton acreage declined sharply in Alabama, the average annal yield was 292 pounds per acre.

IF ALABAMA is to stay in the cotton business, it is clear that yields per acre must be increased.

Farmers, like business men, must meet competition in order to remain in business.

The salvation of Alabama agriculture lies in producing all farm commodities at as low a unit cost as possible. This is true of cotton, milk, beef, poultry, peaches and every other product.

Alabama unquestionably has adequate resources to compete with every other area of the nation.

Agricultural research has developed the skills to utilize these resources and to compete with other areas.

THE PRIMARY mission of the Alabama Extension Service, then, is to convey this technical knowledge to the state's farmers.

If Alabama agriculture is to compete, we must also be competitive in our extension programs which help provide the know-how for more efficient farm production

The Extension Service in Alabama has in its budget an average of some $7726 for each professional worker.

This is the total fund available for all purposes, including salaries, travel, secretarial assistance, equipment, publications and demonstrations.

Again, going to California for comparative purposes, that state has an average of $13,817 per professional worker. The national average is $9210.

IT WOULD SEEM to be more than coincidence that California ranks—

First among the states in amount of state funds spent for extension.

First in percentage of the total extension budget provided by state funds.

First in amount of funds for each professional extension worker.

And first in total farm income.

ALABAMA, on the other hand ranks—

Forty-fifth among the states in percentage of extension funds from state and county sources.

Forty-fifth in amount of funds per professional worker.

Forty-fifth in net income per farm.

Alabama ranks at the very bottom of the states in ratio of the number of extension specialists to workers on the county level.

"I AM CONVINCED," Dr. York said, "that an all-out extension effort is one of the best means available of insuring the future development of our agriculture and, through it, the economic growth of our state.

"If Alabama's farm income had kept pace with the national average since 1935, our farmers would have brought home an additional $200 million last year," he said.

"This would have benifited not only our farmers, but would have bolstered the entire economy of our state," York said.

"We are not talking about increased expenditures, but, rather, about investments in the economic development of Alabama—investments which will unquestionably pay large dividends."

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Pittsburgh, Pa.
Sat. 2-18-59
Sec. 1

PARTING ADVICE — P. H. Stone, who retired on June 30 as a top aide in the Federal Extension Service of the U. S. Department of Agriculture in Washington, D. C., gives parting advice on improved methods of supervision to four of the newer supervisors of Extension home demonstration work. Left to right: Mrs. Cleo S. Walker, Alabama district agent; Mrs. Esther W. Reed, Mississippi district agent; Mrs. Stone; Mrs. Mattie T. Copeland, Georgia assistant state supervisor; and Mrs. Marguerite P. Williams, Arkansas district agent. Mr. Stone was a top Georgia U. S. Agriculture Department official before going to Washington.

GET SERVICE RECOGNITION—Retiring county agents with the A. and T. College Extension were recently honored by North Carolina State College of the University of North Carolina. The framed certificates, in recognition of outstanding service, were presented by R. E. Jones, left, state agent, in charge of the A. and T. Extension Service at the recent annual meeting of the extension personnel. The honorees are, left to right: J. W. Jeffries, Mebane, district agent; J. C. Hubbard, Durham county agent; Mrs. Estelle T. Nixon, Bahama, Durham, county home agent, and J. B. Small, Edenton, Ghowan County agent.

Extension Supervisors Take New Look At Farm Economy

DUBLIN, Ga. — Forty-nine Extension Service supervisors from 14 States met in a regional workshop last week at the 4-H center to take a fresh look at their job in view of the changing agricultural economy of the South.

Principal speakers at the workshop were: Dr. E. B. Evans, president of Prairie View, Texas, A and M. college; L. I. Jones, field representative of the Federal Extension Service; Director M. O. Watkins of the Florida Extension Service; Miss Earle Gaddis, state home demonstration agent of Mississippi; Dr. Grady W. Taylor district agent of Alabama; Director W. A. Sutton of the Georgia Extension Service; and P. H. Stone of the Federal Extension office who directed the workshop.

LARGER AND FEWER

The speakers described the vast changes which are taking place in agriculture and rural life: Farms becoming larger and fewer, merchanized and specialized with increased emphasis on livestock. Other changes include higher educational level of farm people, a decline in home production of food and clothing, and a tendency more and more to purchase such items.

It was pointed out also that the schools are being consolidated, the number of rural non-farm families is increasing, and the concentration of farm people by age groups is tending to fall among the young and the old.

Following the addresses, the supervisors, who direct the work of more than 800 farm and home demonstration agents, met for three days in small workshop groups to analyze their Extension programs and make adjustments to help meet the changing needs of rural people.

It was suggested that supervision be broadened to provide for more effective recruitment, placement, and training of agents, and more careful surveillace of program planning and program execution.

In line with the changing agricultural economy, the farm demonstration supervisors placed increased emphasis on adequate family-sized farms, higher efficiency, pasture development, and livestock production.

Taking a look at today's rural home, the home demonstration supervisors said more work needs to be done in the areas of family relations, consumer buying, and home management. And they suggested that more research on the status of Negro farm families should be undertaken.

The 4-H leaders expressed concern over the decline in club enrollment among pupils at consolidated schools. Emphasis was placed on organizing out-of-school clubs in the local communities. Some thought was given also to the development of new 4-H projects, such as baby sitting and suburban and urban yard beautification.

Another highlight of the workshop was the presentation of a silver tray to Stone in recognition of his 40 years of outstanding service in agricultural extension work. The presentation was made at a dinner by Mrs. Marian B. Paul, state supervisor of Negro home demonstration work in South Carolina. Stone began work as a county agent in Georgia on February 16 1919.

Other speakers on the dinner program were: L. J. Washington, assistant to the Administrator of the Farmers Home Administration; and A. H. Fuhr, information specialist of the Farm Credit Administration.

Supervisors in attendance at the workshop came from the following States: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Oklahoma, South Carolina and Virginia.

40 YEARS OF SERVICE — P. H. Stone, assistant to the Assistant Administrator of Federal Extension Service, is being presented a silver tray by Mrs. Marian B. Paul, supervisor of Negro home demonstration work in South Carolina. The tray was purchased by Extension Service supervisors from across the South in recognition of Stone's 40 years of outstanding service in agricultural extension work. Presentation was made last week at the supervisors' regional workshop dinner at Dublin, Ga., 4-H center.

Alabama Extension Agents Hold State Meet At Tuskegee

Meeting at Tuskegee Institute this week Extension Agents from 35 counties gave comprehensive study to the theme: "Extension's Role In A Changing Agriculture." The keynote address for the three day meet was delivered Wednesday morning by Dr. E. T. York, Jr., recently appointed Director, Extension Service, Alabama Polytechnic Institute.

Following official greetings from Tuskegee Institute by Dean L. A. Potts of the School of Agriculture, Dr. W. B. Hill, State Leader outlined the purpose of the meeting as a concentrated review of the "Scope Report," a national nine point study being considered by extension workers throughout the 50 states and territorial possessions of the United States.

Dr. York expressed appreciation for the good working relations which exist between the State Extension Office and Tuskegee Institute and plans for enlarging this relationship were outlined by the Director. He told the agents that their record of achievement in helping low - income families to achieve a better way of life has not gone unnoticed. He said, "The very nature of the problems you encounter presents some challenging opportunities for all of us."

USDA HIGH AWARD—R. E. Jones, state agent in charge of the A. and T. College Extension Service, was presented the Superior Service Award by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The award was presented to him for "his exceptional leadership in developing and guiding extension work among Negroes" in North Carolina.

"TAKE A FRESH LOOK" — Dr. E. B. Evans, president of Prairie View, Texas, A. and M. college, challenged the Extension Service supervisors at their Dublin, Ga., workshop to "take a fresh look at their job." Seated near the lectern, left to right, are: Mrs. Marian B. Paul, state supervisor of Negro home demonstration work in South Carolina; Ross W. Newsome, state agent of Virginia; Miss Bessie Walton, assistant state home agent of Tennessee; Dr. Evans; director W. A. Sutton of Georgia Extension Service; and P. H. Stone, assistant to the Assistant Administrator of Federal Extension Service.

NEGRO EXTENSION SUPERVISORS TAKE FRESH LOOK AT THEIR JOB

DUBLIN, Ga., Mar. 2.—Forty-nine Negro Extension Service supervisors from 14 States met in a regional workshop last week here at the 4-H center to take a fresh look at their job in view of the changing agricultural economy of the South.

Principal speakers at the workshop were: Dr. E. B. Evans, president of Prairie View, Texas, A. & M. College; L. I. Jones, field representative of the Federal Extension Service; Director M. O. Watkins of the Florida Extension Service; Miss Earle Gaddis, State home demonstration agent of Mississippi; Dr. Grady W. Taylor, district agent of Alabama; Director W. A. Sutton of the Georgia Extension Service; and P. H. Stone of the Federal Extension office who directed the workshop.

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Extension Supervisor Named To High Post

A. S. Bacon, State supervisor of Negro Extension work in Georgia, has been appointed to the administrative staff of the Federal Extension Service of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Already at work, Bacon will succeed P. H. Stone upon his retirement on June 30 as assistant to the Assistant Administrator in charge of the program work of the agency, which is the educational arm of the Department.

Like his predecessor, Bacon will work primarily with State Extension supervisors throughout the South in developing more effective educational programs to assist the millions of rural Negro people in the region.

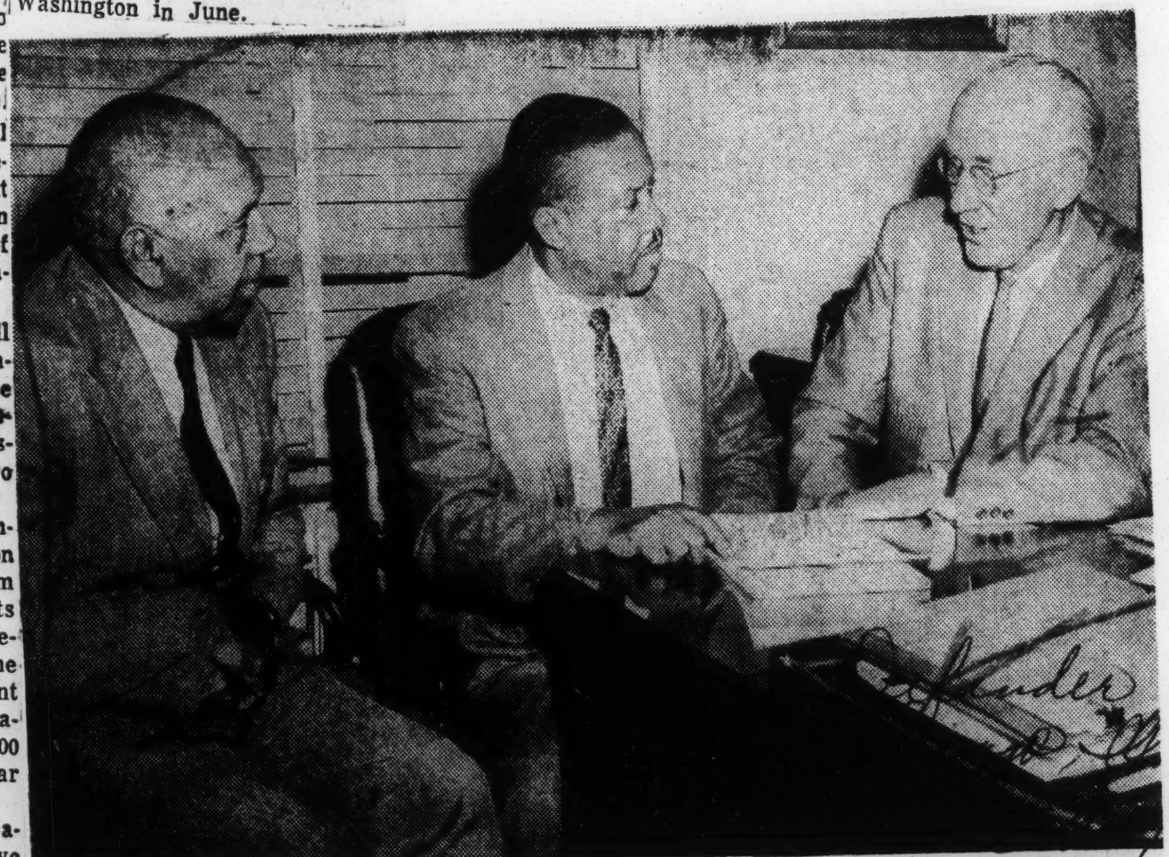
Providing on-the-farm and in-the-home Cooperative Extension advice are some 900 colored farm and home demonstration agents who base their counsel on research results obtained by the Department, the State land-grant colleges, and the experiment stations. There are about 10,000 white agents performing similar duties throughout the Nation.

Bacon began his Extension career as an agent in his native Brooks County, Georgia, in 1943. Two years later he was promoted to assistant tate supervisor with headquarters in Savannah; and in 1955 he became State supervisor when Mr. Stone, who had held that post, came to Washington.

Prior to entering Extension, Mr. Bacon served as an assistant county supervisor for the Farmers Home Administration, and earlier duties throughout the Nation. as a high school principal and vocational agriculture teacher in Sylvester, Ga.

The new official of the Federal Extension Service was born and reared near Quitman, Ga. He received his training at Georgia State College (now Savanah State) and at the University of Minnesota, earning an M. S. degree in agricultural economics at the latter.

Mr. Bacon is married and has a teenage son. He expects to move his family from Savannah to Washington in June.



GETS HIGH AG POST — A. S. Bacon, center, recently appointed to succeed P. H. Stone, left, upon his retirement from the Federal Extension Service on June 30, confers with Administrator Clarence M. Ferguson, head of this U. S. Department of Agriculture agency. Bacon will be part of the administrative staff. —USDA Photo.

7 Million To Stress Quality Of Rural Living In National Home Demonstration Week

How the quality of rural family living has been improved will be the principal topic of discussion by nearly 7 million homemakers during National Home Demonstration Week, May 3-9, says the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Although rural home improvement among low-income families is not moving ahead at a rapid pace, many of these families also have much to celebrate, say officials of the Cooperative Extension Service. More than 4,000 Extension home demonstration agents work with low-income as well as other families, providing them with home economic research information from the Department of Agriculture, the land-grant colleges and experiment stations.

Among these Extension workers are about 450 Negro home agents who conduct a year-round educational program with close to half a million colored homemakers. Achievements of these homemakers and their families include: Improved family relations, some home construction and modernization, better methods of food production and preservation, more nutritious family meals, and better home furnishings and equipment.

Money for the basic improvements—such as home construction—comes from better farming methods a variety of farm enterprises which provides year-round income, part-time off-farm employment, and through credit aid from USDA's Farmers Home Administration which made or insured housing loans for 7,450 white and colorel families last year.

While some homemakers will be showing off their new homes during National Home Demonstration Week, others will be showing neighbors their new kitchen cabinets, a reupholstered chair, a new kitchen sink with hot and cold running water, a home freezer, rows of jars of home canning, or a new dress made for a daughter's graduation from high school.

Mrs. Annie M. Pitts of Newberry, S. C., for example, will have a group in to see her modern kitchen with cabinets, breakfast counter, shelves for potted plants and an ivory-hued radio with a telephone to match.

What was a shack when rented a few years ago is now an attractive home, especially on the inside, says her home agent, Mrs. Lillian G. Saunders. And the landlord helped when he saw that Mrs. Pitts was determined to have a better home.

The South Carolina demonstration house, where homemakers go and live and learn for a week, has stimulated marked home improvement all over the State.

In neighboring North Carolina, thousands of homemakers are learning to put first things first in home improvement. Mrs. William H. Sumler of the Rocky Mount area, for example, was planning to buy a new lining room suite and a living room sofa until her home demonstration agent, Mrs. Margaret Wade, got her thinking about the convenience of a kitchen sink with hot and cold running water.

Mrs. Sumler has now refurnished her old furniture and is going to make out with it for a while. But in the kitchen there is a shiny new sink and water is available at a twist of the wrist.

A Georgia homemaker, Mrs. William Hunter, Jr., of Valdosta, will invite neighbors in to see 300 jars of fruits and vegtables. She has increased her canning budget since her home agent, Mrs. Lily G. Rogers showed her how to use a pressure cooker.

In Alabama Mrs. Ulysses Stanford of Abbeville is going to take pride showing off her upright home freezer next week. And Mrs. Fannie McKneely of Idabel, Oklahoma, will have a dress display. Income from sewing has enabled her to make a number of improvements in her home.

The Extension home demonstration agents, who are helping Negro families improve the quality of their living, were assisted last year by 29,632 volunteer local leaders. To them National Home Demonstration Week is like commencement, because it marks the graduation upward of many families they have had a part in helping.

Ga. Supervisor Wins High 'Ag' Dept. Post

WASHINGTON, D. C.—A. S. Bacon, state supervisor of Negro extension work in Georgia, has been appointed to the administrative staff of the Federal Extension Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Already at work, Mr. Bacon will succeed H. H. Stone upon his retirement June 30, as assistant to the Assistant Administrator in charge of the program work of the Service which is the educational arm of the department.

Like his predecessor, Mr. Bacon will work, primarily, with state extension supervisors throughout the South in developing more effective educational programs to assist the millions of rural Negro people in the region.

MR. BACON BEGAN his extension career as an agent in his native Brooks County, Ga., in 1943. Two years later, he was promoted to assistant state supervisor, with headquarters in Savannah; in 1955, he became state supervisor when Mr. Stone, who had held that post, came to Washington.

Mr. Bacon is married and has a teen-age son. He expects to move his family from Savannah to Washington in June.

1b 1959

EXTENSION SERVICE

He Was In High School At 33

John W. Jeffries Retires; 37 Yrs. In Extension Service

GREENSBORO, N. C. —I celebrated my 33rd birthd a y in high school and I wasn't the t e a cher either. . .In my 37 years on the job I've helped a lot of farmers and made many friends, and I've also giv e n some bad advice."

These quotes, his fri e n d s say, are typical of the hum o r and honesty of John W. (Jeff) Jeffries, assistant state agent with the A. and T. college extension service who has just retired.

BOASTING the longest record of any worker with t h e North Carolina extension s e r-vice, Jeffries is certain t h a t he would pick the same career again if he were beginn i n g a-new. In addition, he thinks he would follow the same course in most details.

"There is no other job in which I could have been happier, nor done as well." he said last week.

"JEFF," A graduate of A. and T., got his degree 31 years after he first entered, but he wasn't in college all that time. He matriculated at A. and T. (then A. and M.) first in t h e fall of 1913, spent one year and was called back home to help his ailing father on the farm.

With extension courses offer-ed in his community by A. and T. and other colleges, he built enough credits for senior rank-ing. He returned to the college on a full time basis in the fall of 1943 and received his degree the following June.

Jeffries worked side by side with the late U. S. Senator W. Kerr Scott, also former gover-nor of the state, who then also served as Alamance c o u n t y agent. The two were credit e d with doing probably the b e s t job in improving dairy catt l e of any county in the State.

"JEFF" GOT serious l y in-terested in dairying for h i s farmers as far back as 1927 and organized a successful 4-H Calf Club. Sixty - three Ala-mance boys and girls purchas-ed registered calves und e r that program and many agree that this had important influ-ence in the development of the fine dairy herds for which the county is now noted.

Jeffries is quick to tell you about the best job that he ac-complished in 37 years w i t h the Service. He spearheaded a drive in 1942-43, encourag i n g Negro farmers in the state to purc h a s e top qual i t y home milk cows.

* * *

AS A RESULT of that cam-paign, he was able to procure for them 43 carloads of dairy cattle at a cost of more than $57,000. The lot consisted of m o r e than 1,100 register e d dairy animals.

He said that the biggest good came from the reproduction of this big lot. He also promoted the first statewide 4-H c l u b dairy cattle show for Negroes in 1945. It also was an o u t-standing success.

He was appointed dist r i c t agent in 1940 and was promot-ed to his present post in 1943. He was named to the trustee board of his Alma Mat e r in 1949.

IN MAY, 1951, he receiv e d the superior service award, given by the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Jeffries is a dedicated fami-ly man and he and his w i f e have done a pretty good j o b with their nine offsprings. They include:

Mrs. Virginia Jeffries Brown graduate of Bennett Coll e g e and Meharry Medical college, now a housewife in Los Ange-les; John W. Jr., a graduate of A. and T., now an investi-gator with the New York City department of public welfare; Roland S., graduate of Hamp-ton institute, and Tuskegee in-stitute, now doctor of veteri-nary medicine in Chicago.

Hulon M., operating his own farm in Alamance C o u n t y; Edna E., a graduate of B e n-nett college, teacher in Gra-ham; James D., graduate of A. and T., former Army offi-cer, now at the Cancer Re-search center near Washing-ton, D. C.; Calvin, a graduate of A. and T., now a pilot with the U. S. Air Force;

Mrs. Iris Jeffries W a d e, graduate of Hampton institute now home economics teacher in Wilmington and Elton R., graduate of A. and T., n o w vocational agriculture teacher in Jacksonville.

* * *

WHAT ARE his plans? Jeff has just two things in m i n d. He is going to work hard as president of the 4-H C l u b Foundation of North Carolina, Inc., at no pay. He was elect-ed last month and return to farm i n g on his site in Ala-mance which he loves so well.

He's Busy In Retirement

John W. (Jeff) Jefries, retired assistant North Carolina State agent with the A. and T. College extension service in Greensoro, reflects on a career of 37 years of working with farmers. He's president of the 4-H Club Federation of North Carolina, Inc.

Dr. York Named Extension Head To Succeed Davis

AUBURN, Ala.—Effective May 1, Dr. E. T. York, Jr., a native farm lad of DeKalb County, will succeed P. O. Davis as extension director of the Alabama Polytechnic Institute.

After 22 years as director, Mr. Davis is retiring "to do some resting to devote more time to my private affairs."

In announcing the appointment of Dr. York to the position, Dr. Ralph B. Draughon, president, said:

"Dr. York is one of Auburn's more brilliant graduates and is recognized in professional circles as one of America's outstanding young men in agriculture. He is 37 years of age."

He was born and reared on a farm near Valley Head, Ala., where he attended high school and did 4-H and FFA work.

Mrs. York is from Evergreen and graduated at Auburn in 1946.

Dr. York holds B. S. and M. S. degrees in agriculture from Auagronomy from Cornell University.

He was on the agronomy faculty of North Carolina State for seven years and became head of the department at the age of 32. He owned and operated a 430-acre crop and livestock farm while in North Carolina.

For the past four years he has been associated with the American Potash Institute as director for the Northeastern states, living in Washington, D. C.

DR. E. T. YORK, JR.

Study Changes In Rural Economy Of The South

Committee chairmen and consultants at the extension service supervisors' Regional Workshop last week at the Dublin, Ga., 4-H Center discuss ways of adjusting their programs to meet the changing needs of rural people.

Left to right are: Mrs. Minnie M. Brown, North Carolina; Ashford O. Williams, Louisiana; R. A. Sanders, Texas; A. S. Bacon, Georgia; Mrs. Ezelle M. Hawkins, Maryland; Dr. Grady W. Taylor, Alabama, and S. E. Marshall, Virginia. (USDA Photo)

FARM-HOME OFFICIALS—New officers elected to head the State Conference of Farmers and Homemakers, which met at A. and T. College, Greensboro, last week, include, left to right: Mrs. Estelle Smith of Palmyra, president; David Richardson of Wendell, first vice president; Mrs. Emma W. Johnson of Garysburg, second vice president; and A. W. Solomon of Greensboro, secretary-treasurer.

Mrs. Estelle Smith president of Farmer-Homemaker Conference

GREENSBORO, N.C. — Mrs. Estelle Smith of Palmyra, N.C. was elected president of the Farmers-Homemakers Conference at the 37th annual session, here, last week.

Sessions were held on the campus of A. and T. College.

Other officers named were: David Richardson, Wendell, S.C., first vice president; Mrs. Emma W. Johnson, Garysburg, second vice president; and A. W. Solomon, Greensboro, field representative of the North Carolina Farm Bureau Federation, secretary-treasurer.

At the final session on Friday the group adopted a series of resolutions calling for increases in State Extension personnel in certain of the counties, a generally stepped-up program in Extension aimed at improving community development and a statewide promotional campaign which would increase the attendance at the annual meetings.

MAIN SPEAKER for the session was Dr. Naomi Albanese, dean of the School of Home Economics at Woman's College here. She spoke from the subject, "Our Homes in a Changing World" at a joint session on Thursday, June 18.

The visiting women attended classes, lectures and demonstrations on such subjects as, home nursing, better family relations, selection of cooking utensils, home furnishings and School of Nursing at A. and T.; Miss Martha Easter, home economist with a Corning, N.Y. glass manufacturer; Mrs. Corrine Grimsley and Miss Pauline Gordon of the State Extension Service, Raleigh and members of the staff of the A. and T. College Extension Service.

* * *

PROGRAMS OF primary interest to the men included presentations on Livestock Day, June 17, dealing with production, care and marketing of beef, swine and poultry and on Field Crop Day, June 18 dealing with crop allocation, small fruit, tobacco and cotton production.

Main lecturers included Douglass Curtis, meat packer and W. J. Mericka, beef cattle producer, both of Greensboro; Bynum Hawkins of the Carolina Farmers Mutual Exchange Durham; P. J. Morgan, Guilford College, president of the North Carolina Processors Association and A. C. Edwards, Hookerton, executive vice president of the North Carolina Farm Bureau Federation.

* * *

THE VISITORS were guests at a tea given by Dr. Warmoth T. Gibbs, president of the college and Mrs. Gibbs, a fashion show and an evening social.

The meets were sponsored by the college and the A. and T. College Extension Service, the latter headed by R. E. Jones, State agent.

1b 1959

4-H CLUB

"U. S. Must Take Lead!"

Nixon Tells 4-H'ers Masses Eye Freedom

Courier Pittsburgh, Penn. Sat. 8-29-59

P. 13

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Vice President Richard M. Nixon told delegates to the 12th annual Regional 4-H Club Camp, last week, that the disadvantaged peoples of the world are seeking freedom and equality, and are looking to the United States for leadership. He was speaking on the steps of the Capitol, surrounded by 126 top rural Negro boys and girls and 32 State Extension leaders who met here lasst week at Howard University. The youths represented 348,000 fellow 4-H'ers in the 17 states of the Southern Region.

Continuing, the Vice President said we in the United States are trying to help establish freedom and equality all over the world and he added that, with fine 4-H'ers like these growing up in America, he felt assured the work of our democracy would continue.

Referring to his recent trip to Russia, Mr. Nixon pointed out that although the boys and girls there live under repressive rules, they are anxious to get an education and push ahead. He presented this as a challenge to American youth to work harder to continue their own advancement.

Other speakers on the week's program were Assistant Secretary of Agriculture Ervin L. Peterson, President Willa B. Player of Bennett College, Greensboro, N. C.; Federal Extension Administrator C. M. Ferguson, President Mordecai W. Johnson of Howard, National 4-H Director Edward W. Aiton and Oklahoma Extension Director L. H. Brannon, chairman of the camp committee.

Still others included Miss Roberta Church and Samuel B. Danley of the Department of Labor, Sterling Tucker of the Washington Urban League, Miss Dorothy Emerson, state 4-H agent of Maryland, and V. C. Nicol of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

Dr. Player, who addressed the banquet session, warned against over-emphasis of programs for gifted children and the consequent failure to concentrate on ways of discovering and developing the talents of all young people.

Courier Pittsburgh P.B.

Nixon Lectures 4-H'ers—Reminding last week's national encampment of 4-H Club members that the disadvantaged peoples of the world are demanding freedom, and that the United States must lead the way, Vice President Richard Nixon said his recent trip to Russia brought forth the truth of those assertions, as they never before had been outlined during his lifetime.

The closing feature of the program was the address by Assistant Secretary Peterson followed by the presentation of citizenship and honor awards. Copies of the Charter of Freedom were presented to 22 club delegates who have reached, or are approaching, voting age.

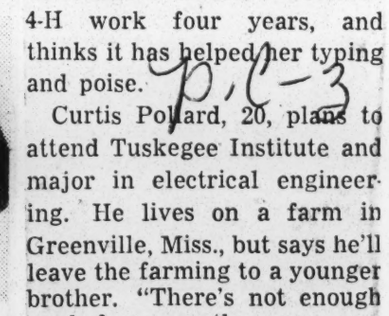
Citation plaques were awarded to four outstanding business and educational leaders for their contributions to 4-H. Those who were honored are Dr. M. Lafayette Harris, president of Philander Smith College, Little Rock; Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of the Phelps-Stokes Fund and former head of Tuskegee Institute; Walter S. Scott, president of Guaranty Life and Health Insurance Co., Savannah, Ga., and John H. Wheeler, president of the Mechanics and Farmers Bank, Durham, N. C. Dr. Patterson is in Africa and could not be present.

Some in 4-H Head for City

Washington, D.C. Post P.C-3 8-29-59

The trend is away from the farm and toward the city, even among members of 4-H clubs. This is true, at least, for four of the 128 Negro delegates from 17 southern and border states who make up the 12th annual Regional 4-H Club Camp, meeting through Sunday at Howard University.

Olia Mae Hopkins



Phyllis Hayes

Curtis Pollard

Bobby Isom

There's 18-year-old Phyllis D. Hayes, from Greenwood, Del., a sophomore at Delaware State Teachers College. She's five feet tall, weighs a hundred pounds and wants to be a 4th-grade teacher. Why the fourth grade? "I don't have enough patience for the first, second and third," she says, "and after that they're too large."

Olia M. Hopkins, 16, an 11th-grader from Hurlock, Md., wants to study at Howard, then be either a private secretary or a model, preferably in California. She's been in 4-H work four years, and thinks it has helped her typing and poise.

Curtis Pollard, 20, plans to attend Tuskegee Institute and major in electrical engineering. He lives on a farm in Greenville, Miss., but says he'll leave the farming to a younger brother. "There's not enough work for more than one, anyway," he says.

Bobby Isom, 18, will enter Morris Brown College in Atlanta this fall to study bacteriology because "I just love working with germs." Rather than return to his home town, Baxley, Ga., he wants to go to met Vice President Richard M. Nixon on the steps of the Capitol. He told them of the desire the Russians show for education, and urged them to take advantage of the wider range of choice in education in this country.

Africa, where he says there are more diseases to work with."

REGIONAL 4-H CAMP AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.
Aug 13 1953

WASHINGTON — The twelfth annual Regional 4-H Club Camp opened here August 10 at Howard University with 125 outstanding rural boys and girls in attendance from the 17 States of the Southern region.

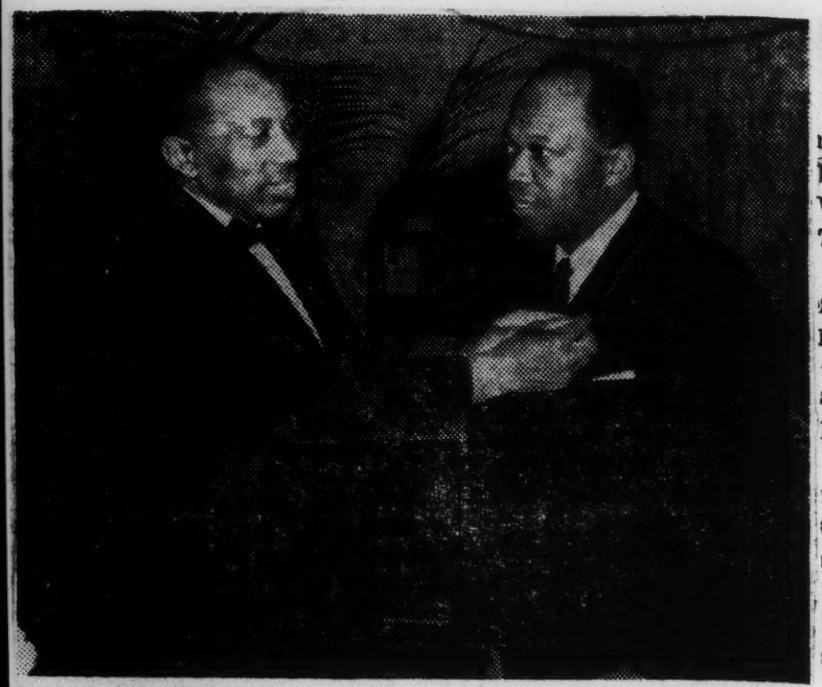
The delegates, who are accompanied by 32 adult leaders, are representing 348,000 fellow colored 4-H'ers throughout the South.

Opening feature of the week's encampment was a three-hour discussion of career opportunities for rural young people who are planning to seek nonfarm employment.

The discussion was led by Miss Roberta Church and Samuel B. Damley, employment consultants of the U. S. Department of Labor, and Sterling Tucker, executive secretary of the local Urban League; and Dr. Edward W. Aiton, national director of 4-H club work.

Miss Church discussed over-all employment opportunities, Mr. Damley told the boys and girls about the training and other requirements for certain kinds of positions. Mr. Tucker pointed out how color bars to employment opportunities are breaking down, and Dr. Aiton stressed the importance of preparing for future careers.

The 4-H delegates were welcomed to Howard University by David W. Brown, assistant director of admissions, and to the U. S. Department of Agriculture and the Nation's capital by Administrator C. M. Ferguson of the Federal Extension Service, one of the sponsors of the encampment.



TOP 4-H AWARD—D. G. Belton Jr., Fairfield County, S. C., 4-H alumnus and Negro agricultural agent, places top achievement award on his brother, the Rev. M. S. Belton, also an alumnus of Fairfield 4-H clubs and director of public relations at Johnson C. Smith University, Charlotte, N. C., for his outstanding services as an educator and a minister, at their recent banquet saluting 4-H alumni.

Negro 4-H Rally Slated At Westside High

The Talladega county 4-H club rally for Negro 4-H clubsters will be held Saturday, April 18, at Westside Junior High School, Talladega.

An estimated 800 4-H boys and girls and adult leaders are expected to attend.

Opening the program at 9:45 a.m. will be music by the R. R. Moton high school band.

The general assembly is planned at 10 a.m. at Westside auditorium with Geneva Waver, Mignon club president, presiding.

Christine Lemon, county council song leader, will lead the singing of "God Bless America."

The 4-H pledge and pledge to the American flag will be given by Larry Foster.

The Rev. W. J. Hudson, pastor, Mt. Canaan Baptist Church, Talladega, will give the invocation.

Welcoming the 4-H'ers and visitors will be B. N. Mabra, principal.

Among the speakers will be N. F. Nunnelley, superintendent of Talladega county schools; Miss Otha Fields, supervisor, county schools; and John L. Taylor, attendance supervisor, county schools.

A playlet, "How Safe Are You In The Home" will be presented by the Lincoln 4-H Club.

The featured speaker will be Miss B. M. Jones, state 4-H club agent, Negro girls, Tuskegee Institute.

She will be introduced by Miss M. L. Harris, Negro home demonstration agent.

Highlighting the program will be the presentation of awards by T. R. Agnew, state 4-H club agent, Negro boys, Tuskegee Institute.

G. A. Peasant, will make the announcements and acknowledge visitors.

The Talladega County Training School chorus will sing.

Among the songs on the program are '4-H Hymn"; "The More We Get Together"; and "We Love Our 4-H Club" by the audience.

Music prededing a break at 11:30 will be directed by Mrs. L. H. Lawler, of Talladega County Training School.

Recreational activities are planned from 12 noon until 2 p.m. Officials of the games are P. L. Brown and C. H. Pinkston.

Negro 4-H Club Girls Display Fine Work Here

Following their theme, "Sew and Save", junior 4-H'ers exhibited their beautiful skirts and serviceable aprons in a county-wide revue held recently at the agent's office, featuring 26 entries from clubs in the county.

The revue opened with Christine Lemons, county council song leader, presiding. She is a member of the Jenifer 4-H club and district winner in the Dairy Foods contest.

She led the group in singing "The More We Get Together", meditation, pledges and gave the thought for the day.

The occasion was given by Miss M. L. Harris, home agent.

A large number of interested adults and other clubsters were present to see the revue.

According to the decision of the judges, Catherine Millender, Nottingham club, received first place in the apron division; Mary Staples, Phyllis Wheatley, second; Mary Elston, Salem, and Virginia Ann Tuck, County Training, third.

Winners in the skirt division were Emma Sue Swain, Nottingham, first; Geneva Waver, second and Corine Davis, third, both of Mignon club.

Miss Sadie Swain and Mrs. Sallie McPherson, local 4-H leaders, assisted with the revue.

Remarks were made by Miss Rose Mitchell, home economics instructor, County Training School, and Miss Mary F. Griggs, home agent, Chambers County who also served as judges.

"The clubsters' selection of materials and the construction work measured up well", concluded the judges.

Four-H clubs having members in the revue were Antioch, Hannah J. Mallory, County Training, Lincoln, Mignon, Nottingham, Salem, Jenifer and Phyllis Wheatley.

103 Negro Youths At 4-H Club Camp

District Boys, Girls Study At T. O. Fuller Park

Attended by 103 boys and girls from eight counties, a West Tennessee district 4-H Club camp for Negroes is being held this week at T. O. Fuller State Park on Mitchell Road.

Activities, directed by W. H. Williamson, Negro state extension agent, and Miss Bessie Walton, Negro state home demonstration agent, include conservation studies, identification of trees and plants, craft work, cookouts, music, games and other recreation.

Counties represented are Shelby, Crockett, Haywood, Fayette, Tipton, Hardeman, Madison and Dyer.

Ernest Brazzle, Shelby County Negro extension agent, is assisting with the camp. He said Shirley Harris of Millington and Charleston Gibbs of Oak Grove will represent Shelby County at the state camp in August.

Four To Receive 4-H Club Awards

Atlanta, Ga. Sun 7-26-59
Daily World

WASHINGTON — (UPI) — Dr. F. D. Patterson, former president of Tuskegee Institute, and now head of the Phelps-Stokes Fund, will be one of four to receive awards at the 12th Annual Regional 4-H Club Camp, August 9-17 at Howard University.

The other three to be honored are: Dr. M. Lafayette Harris, resident of Philander Smith College, Little Rock, Ark.; Walter S. Scott, president of Guaranty Life and Health Insurance Company, Savannah, Ga.; and J. H. Wheeler, president of Mechanics and Farmers Bank, Durham, N. C.

These educators and businessmen are to be honored by the Nation's 350,000 colored 4-H'ers for their encouragement and aid to the boys and girls in the carrying out of club projects and in developing effective State-wide 4-H programs.

Regional 4-H plaques will be presented to them on the afternoon of August 16 in the Engineering and Architecture Building where most of the camp sessions will be held on Howard's campus. Assistant Secretary of Agriculture Ervin L. Peterson will be the awards speaker.

This will be one of the major events of the encampment week during which the128 club delegates from the Southern region will take part in a number of activities. Among these: visits to the White House, Capitol, Mount Vernon, and the U. S. Department of Agriculture's research center at Beltsville, Md., and a discussion of career opportunities led by Miss Roberta Church and Samuel B. Danley of the Department of Labor and Sterling Tucker of the Washington Urban League.

Also the 4-H'ers will head addresses by Dr. Willa B. Player, president of Bennet College, Greensboro, N. C.; Federal Extension Administrator C. M. Ferguson; and National 4-H Director Edward W. Aiton.

charge no tuition. Some offer stipends to meet part or all of maintenance costs.

Girls who want a college degree in medical technology should select a university offering a four-year

GEORGIA DELEGATION attending the 12th Regional Club Camp at Howard University, August 10-16. Front row, left to right, Esterene Sanders, Decatur County; Elfreta L. Mann, Sumter County; Minnie Robinson, Walton County; Eva M. Collins, Bibb County; Mrs. Mattie T. Copeland, assistant state agent for Negro work. Back row, left to right, George Marshall, county agent from Walton County; John H. Malcom, Walton County; Freddie Wakefield, Lowndes County; Esper Lee, Wilkes County; Bobby Isom, Appling County, and M. C. Little, assistant Negro club agent.

Georgia 4 H'ers Play Big Roles At Washington Regional Encampment

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.
Fri. 8-20-59

Georgia 4-H delegates returned August 18 from Washington, D. C., where they played important roles in the 12 Annual Regional Club Camp at Howard University.

Making up the delegation of Negro 4-H'ers and Extention leaders were: Esper Lee, Wilkes County, John H. Malcom, Walton County, Fredie Wakefield, Lowndes County, Bobby Isom, Appling County, Minnie Robinson, Walton, Eva M. Collins, Bibb County, Elfreta L. Mann, Sumter County; Esterene Sanders, Decatur County; Mrs. Mattie T. Copeland, Assistant State Agent for Negro Work, M. C. Little, Assistant Negro Club Agent, and George Marshall, County Agent from Walton County.

Highlight of the week's encampment was an informal talk by Vice President Richard M. Nixon, on the steps of the Capitol with all the young people gathered around close enough to touch him.

The Vice President told the 4-H'ers about his recent trip to Russia, pointing out how fortunate American boys and girls are living in the freedom of a great democracy, compared to the repressive lot of Soviet youth.

Other addresses durng the week were made by Assistant Secretary of Agriculture Ervin L. Peterson, Federal Extention Administrator C. M. Ferguson, National 4-H Director Edward W. Aiton, Oklahoma Extention Director L. H. Brannon chairman of the Camp Committee; Camp Director A. S. Bacon, and Dr. Willa B Player, president of Bennett College, Breensboro, N. C.

States represented at the camp are: Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware,

Andrew Saunders Wins Negro 4-H Corn Contest

Andrew Saunders, Laing High School pupil, has been named the champion Negro 4-H Club corn grower in Charleston County. Saunders produced 84.2 bushels to the acre to top 24 other 4-H Club members.

The contest is sponsored annually by the South Carolina Agricultural Society. Awards were presented to winners by Joseph E. Jenkins, society president, in ceremonies at Laing school.

Saunders received a $25 cash prize. Second prize winner was John Freeman, also of Laing High School. He received a $15 prize.

Prizes of $5 each went to Harold Green of Baptist Hill High School; Richard Weathers of Lincoln High School; Jake Frasier of Haut Gap High School, and Thomas Chavis of Gresham Meggett High School.

B. T. McIntosh, Charleston County Negro farm agent, said yields ranged from 84.2 bushels down to 31 bushels per acre. Average yield per 4-H Club was 54 bushels an acre. The contest is sponsored annually by the Society in cooperation with fertilizer and seed companies.

Two million tan farmers have quit the plough since 1940

PRAIRIE VIEW, Tex.—There are nearly 2,000,000 fewer colored farmers in Southern and border states today than there were in 1940, according to Calvin L. Beale, farm population and rural life agent of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Mr. Beale cited the decline in colored farmers during an address before the fourth annual Agricultural Finance Seminar at Prairie View A and M. College here recently.

The farm specialist said there were 4,500,000 colored persons living on farms in 1940. Within the next 10 years (1950) the number was reduced to 3,400,000, he said, adding:

* * *

"THE VERY HEAVY outmovement of colored persons from farms caused the decline despite high birth rates. This exodus did not end in 1950. It has continued since then.

"Unpublished data obtained by the Bureau of Census in a sample survey indicated a total non - white farm population of 2,960,000 in 1957.

"With possibly five per cent of that being persons of Indian or Oriental origin, the estimated colored population would be about 2,800,000."

Mr. Beale pointed to eight factors for the decline in farm population among colored persons. They are:

* * *

1. THE FACT that half of all Southern non - white farmers (nearly two - thirds of the commercial ones) are crop tenants at a time when the opportunities for such tenure is steadily decreasing.

2. The fact that colored farmers are highly concentrated in the production of crops that have been subject to repeated cuts in acreage allotments in recent years.

3. The effects of the mechanization of cotton farming.

4. The fact that cotton as a crop faces increased competition from synthetic fibers and cotton substitutes.

* * *

5. THE FACT THAT nonalluvial Southern areas which do not compete well with the West in cotton yields per acre have many colored farmers.

6. The fact that the demand for flue - cured tobacco — the type most often produced by colored farmers — has slacked off.

7. The increasing use of "homogenized" or reconstituted sheet tobacco by cigarette manufacturers and the reduced demand for tobacco leaf which have brought cutbacks in allotments.

8. The fact that the Soil Bank Program lessens manpower requirements, at least temporarily, combined with the fact that many colored farmers placed their entire cotton allotments in the Acreage Reserve when it was in effect from 1956 - 1958.

* * *

MR. BEALE said the increasing spread of industry to rural areas and industrial commuting by rural people in general make it more profitable for some landlords to rent their tenant houses for cash to non - farm families.

He said of all colored farmers operating commercial-scale farms, 86 per cent grew cotton in 1954 (compared with 15 per cent of white farmers;

More than 40 per cent grew tobacco and a smaller number grew peanuts. He said most of the farmers were tenants and had little means of converting to some alternative enterprise in farming.

Combined with this, Mr. Beale said a considerable segment of the British export market for tobacco has been lost to Canada, Rhodesia and India. India.

"IT IS BELIEVED that the majority of the loss was among farmers who left agriculture altogether and moved away into cities and towns," Mr. Beale said.

At the time of the last census of agriculture in 1954, colored farmers operated 486,000 farms, including sharecropper units, Mr. Beale stated. Today's estimated drop represents a 92,000 farm decline, he added.

The farm agent said part of the decline may be accounted for by a technical change in the status of workers who switched from sharecropping to hired work on the same plantation as a result of mechanization of cotton farming.

"Perhaps no other group of professional agricultural workers has its task outlined for it in more uncompromising terms than this group present here today," Mr. Beale told his audience, saying:

* * *

"TO RESHARPEN an old saw, it's a long fight with a short stick. The fight is survival on the farm, the stick is cash."

Spring Crop Preparation Given Boost

U.S. Compares Jobs In February Weeks; Decline Over Nation

WASHINGTON — An estimated 53,000 more persons were at work on farms in the South during the survey week of Feb. 15-21 than in the same period a year ago, the U. S. Department of Agriculture reported last week.

Accounting for the increase were preparation for spring planting throughout most of the South, planting or tending tobacco plant beds in the Carolinas, Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, and West Virginia, and potato planting in southern Alabama.

The largest increase in employment was shown in North Carolina, where 27,000 more persons were at work. Texas was second with an increase of 12,000 over a year ago.

* * *

FOR THE NATION as a whole, 5,656,000, or 18,000 fewer than a year ago, were busy on farms. A little over a million of the total employment force were hired workers; the others were farm operators and their families.

Compared with the average level of employment in February during the most recent five-year period, there were 8 percent or 609,000 fewer persons at work this February.

Farm problem poses tough issue for '60

BY OVID A. MARTIN

WASHINGTON, May 2—(AP)—One of the most perplexing issues facing politicians planning for next year's presidential race is what to do about the farm problem.

Doubtless some leaders of both major parties wish the matter could be ignored. That's largely because sharp divisions exist within the parties on what should be done—if anything—to provide more economic help for agriculture.

Adding to the confusion is the question, How strong is the farm vote?

WHETHER they like it or not, Republicans face the prospect of defending the farm aid proposals and record of the Eisenhower administration. Yet, there will be strong forces within the party—largely represented by Republican congressmen—who will try to get the party to pledge greater help for producers than that offered and desired by Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson.

But the Democrats have no clear-cut advantage at this moment, despite criticism being fired from many directions at the GOP administration record. There are many Democrats in Congress, representing for the most part urban areas, who are in sympathy with the Benson idea that government should get out of agriculture.

These Democrats see in such an avenue possible lower prices for food and lower taxes for their constituents. They dislike the idea of spending upwards of $5 billion a year of tax funds for programs.

On the other hand, some Democrats are insisting upon continued federal aid to agriculture, although they would like to see the nature of the programs changed. These party members quite naturally represent farming areas.

INTEREST in the farm issue is held by a third political force, the farmers' own organizations. But these groups, like both political parties, are divided on the question.

Significantly, President Charles B. Shuman of the influential American Farm Bureau Federation says he doubts the farm question will be much of an issue next year. Although himself a Democrat, Shuman takes the position that most farmers want less government in agriculture. Consequently, he says, not too many would be influenced by glowing promises of more federal aid.

The Farm Bureau leader thinks his party would be smart to kick out the bulk of the federal aid before election time. Otherwise, Shuman says the Democrats, should they win, would inherit a situation in 1961 that would prove very embarrassing to them.

FARMERS SUFFER DROP IN INCOME

News & Observer

'Middlemen' Get All Gravy In 20 Per Cent Consumer Food Price Hike

Tues. 6-2-59

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The House Agriculture Committee reported Monday that retailers and other 'middlemen' rang up all of a 20 per cent increase in consumer food prices over the past 10 years. Raleigh, N.C.

It said a study showed farmers not only did not share in the higher costs to consumers but actually suffered an 8 per cent drop in their returns during the 10-year period.

The committee said this skid in farm income helped offset a 4 per cent climb in middlemen's market and processing market and processing charges.

Housewives had only themselves to blame for part of the rise in food prices. The study showed a greater demand for pre-pared frozen and specially - packaged foods acounted for much of the increase in processing and marketing charges.

In addition, the middlemen ran into higher costs which they also passed along to consumers.

Chairman Harold D. Cooley D-N.C. said the committee study "illustrates graphically the deterioration of farm income during recent years while other areas of the nation's economy have experienced unprecedented purchasing power and general prosperity."

He said "it is incumbent upon our government to develop public policies which will enable farmers to participate equitably, along with industry, business and labor, in the rewards of the American free enterprise system."

The study said processors and marketing firms "have been successful in adding greatly increased charges to the farmers' products before they reach the consumers."

It said food was 20 per cent more expensive than 10 years ago "and all the increase in retail prices — and more — goes to the middlemen, none accrues to farmers."

Cooley added that 'food continthe wages received by consumers than in any prior period of our history or in any other country int he world" despite the increase.

The study said the average city family spent $1,310 for food last year. Of this, $829 went for marketing and processing charges and 11 represented the farm value of U.S. food.

Between 1947 and 1949 the typical city family spent an average of $1,050 annually for food, including $576 for processing and marketing costs and $429 for the U.S. commodities themselves. The rest of the money in both periods went for imported food.

1958 Farm Income In South Estimated Over $10 Billion

BIRMINGHAM—Cash farm income for the sixteen Southern states has been estimated at $10,000,000,000 in 1958, breaking the $10 billion barrier for the first time in history.

Orrville Demaree, research director of The Progressive Farmer magazine, says that this represents a 15 per cent gain of $1,311,000,000 over 1957.

It is an estimated 26 per cent increase in income per farm in the past four years.

Livestock prices were 11 per cent higher last year. This favorable price ratio combined with an excelleent crop yield and fine harvesting conditions to reach the record total.

Farm production expenses were up about 6 per cent over 1957 but not enough to seriously affect the increase in gross income. Net income for farmers in the South was the highest in five years.

In addition to this big cash income Southern farmers continued to enjoy increased income from non-farm sources.

Farm receipts over the nation generally showed an increase but the South led all other regions. The increase for the U.S. as a whole was 12 per cent.

Farm Employment Down By 410,000, Says USDA

Washington, D. C. (ANP)—An estimated 410,000 fewer persons were at work on farms during the survey week of August 23-29 than a year ago, reports the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

This represents a three per cent decline for family workers and a seven percent drop for hired workers. Increased use of farm machinery is said to be a continuing factor of great importance in the decrease in the number of farm workers.

In the South, where the cotton harvest was well underway, 142,000 fewer persons were in the fields. More and more farmers are using mechanical cotton harvesters.

The total number of persons at work on the nation's farms during the last full work week in August was 8,733,000 compared with 9,183,000 a year ago, and an August average of 9,513,000 during the past five years.

Cost-Cutting Plan

As one means of cutting the costs of improving the quality of their beef herds, the Negro farmers of Okmulgee County, Okla., have organized a bull association through which proven sires are exchanged every two or three years, reports District Agent Paul O. Brooks.

The association conducted a tour of nine cattle farms recently to provide an opportunity for the members to observe each other's herds, especially the bulls.

County Agent D. P. Lilly, secretary of the association, arranged the tour schedule and program, which included cattle judging and a talk by State Extension Livestock Specialist Frank Baker.

Dr. Baker told the farmers that by using high quality bulls, they can produce calves that will weigh 100 pounds more at weaning than the offspring of ordinary sires. Also the livestock specialist emphasized the need for better fly and disease control, pasture improvement, and sound management as ways of increasing returns from cattle.

On-Farm Market

Albert Russell, a truck farmer who lives near Newport News, Va., has constructed a cinder block on-the-farm market as another outlet for his vegetables reports State Agent Ross W. Newsome.

Russell's market will be convenient for those who will occupy a 250-family unit housing development being built near his farm. He will continue to serve also the stores, restaurants, and customers in town.

Soil Specialists Meet

S. J. Hodges, crop specialist with the North Carolina Extension Service, attended the Southern Regional Conference for Extension agronomists and soil conservationists last week here in the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Altogether 49 extension specialists from 12 states and Puerto Rico were in attendance. They spent two days discussing their common problems and seeking solutions to then, and two days at the Agricultural Research Center at Beltsville, Md., observing research in soil management and crop production, including chemical weed control methods and plant breeding work.

241,000 Increase Shown In Farm Jobs In South

WASHINGTON — An estimated 241,000 more workers were employed on farms in the South during the survey week of Sept. 20-26 than a year ago, the U. S. Department of Agriculture reports.

Altogether, 4,629,000 persons were at work on farms in the region. Of these, 3,091,000 were family members, and 1,538,000 were hired workers. The latter accounted for 62 percent of the rise in the work force. A year ago the South's farm employment figure stood at 4,388,000.

EARLY HARVEST of cotton, panuts, and some other crops, and good weather for field work were large factors in the employment increase. Also the cotton crop, grown mainly in the South, is estimated to be 28 percent larger than in 1958. Production is expected to total 14,678,000 bales, compared with only 11,512,000 last year.

Throughout the U. S., 2,336,000 persons were at work on farms in September. Wages, without board or room, ranged from $10.50 a day in Connecticut down to $4 in South Carolina.

Projects Aid Low Income Farmers

WASHINGTON, D. C.— Many low-income rural families took a step forward this year as a result of the Rural Development Program, says Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson in an annual report to President Eisenhower.

"Our task now," says the Secretary, "is to further broaden this work and constantly to improve its operation, so that more rural people will benefit.

"Chronic underemployment on small, low production farms thru out the nation," he continues, "results in a tragic loss for all Americans."

The Secretary places considerable emphasis on the needs of disadvantaged rural young people, pointing out that they should have more and better training for farm and nonfarm pursuits.

THE REMEDY

Turning to a remedy—the Rural Development Program which seeks to help improve farming methods and through industrial expansion to increase off-farm employment opportunities — Secretary Benson says this effort, inaugurated in 1955 has at long last directed national attention to small farmers needs.

The program has steadily expanded. Now some 200 counties in 30 States and Puerto Rico are included in it. Individual State Rural Development Committees have selected these areas for special attention.

Last year 320 community-wide projects were established to improve farms and farming methods in Rural Development counties. Agencies also helped start 200 additional projects aimed at more efficient commercial production of higher income farm enterprises, such as vegetables, poultry, and livestock to replace loss of earnings from cotton, tobacco, and other traditional crops.

Examples of the shift from cotton to vegetables are reported. In Arkansas 117 white and colored families of Ouachita country are raising cucumbers and tomatoes for market for the first time. One of the leading producers is Roy Williams, a Negro farmer. Cucumbers added $700 to his income last year.

SEEK SUBSTITUTE

In Anson County, N. C., white and colored farmers raised 185 acres of cucumbers this year for a pickle plant. These farmers also are seeking a substitute crop for acres no longer planted to cotton.

Another of the many problems the Rural Development Program has attacked is farm drainage.

On the industrial side, local Rural Development leaders and cooperative businessmen have helped establish factories and processing plants for manufacturing clothing, livestock feed, charcoal, boats and other products. Due to new plants and other industrial growth, some 8,000 additional jobs are reported in 52 counties.

Phillips County, Ark., for example, reports the establishment of a hosiery mill. Thirty Negro women were employed and trained to operate the machinery.

However, the rural problem continues to be one of underemployment on small farms and a shortage of local nonfarm jobs. As parts of the solution, the report suggests more vocational training for the young people.

ROCKEFELLER URGES DOUBLE SOIL BANK IN FARM REVISIONS

The New York Times

He Calls for 'Stabilization Supports' Tied to Costs and Net Income

P. 1

INTENDS TO CUT SURPLUS

Dec. 12-15 59

Would Retire 60,000,000 Acres—Long-Waited Plan Given in Minneapolis

By WARREN WEAVER Jr.

Special to The New York Times.

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 14—Governor Rockefeller proposed today a major revision in the Government's attempts to keep agriculture growing.

In his first speech on farm problems, keenly awaited in midwestern Republican circles, the Governor proposed that:

¶The Government remove from production by "renting" 60,000,000 acres of farm land, twice as much as the soil bank now holds, including whole farms for five to ten-year periods.

¶It institute a revised system of "stabilization supports," keyed to current production costs and farmers' net income rather than "obsolete economic relationships."

Would Check Surplus

Expansion and modification of the soil bank concept would be directed primarily at inducing 1,200,000 unproductive farm families to get out of agriculture and stop swelling surpluses.

This would tend to help the more productive farms by reducing the total acreage under cultivation, contributing to smaller surpluses and thus encouraging higher prices.

The revamped price-support system would be directed at insuring adequate income for the 2,100,000 farm families now producing 90 per cent of crops that go to market.

Mr. Rockefeller also called for more energetic marketing practices to reduce surpluses, and new employment and guidance programs to retrain for non-agricultural jobs. Marginal farmers whose land had been retired.

The Governor's speech, like many of his recent comments, appeared to be geared to advocating a fresh approach to national problems without going so far as to say that the Administration's approach had gone stale.

It took on added interest in the light of growing pressure among organization Republicans for the resignation of Agriculture Secretary Ezra Taft Benson. Mr. Rockefeller refused yesterday to endorse such a move, saying that tagging scapegoats did not solve problems.

Earlier, the Governor assisted at the birth of another "Rockefeller for President" organization. He told Minnesota organizers he was "very grateful for the confidence you have evidenced in me."

He delivered the farm speech before more than 1,000 persons at a Junior Chamber of Commerce dinner at the Hotel Lexington.

The New York Times

He said that devoting 60,000,000 of the country's 450,000,000 cultivated acres to reforestation, conservation and recreation, instead of the present 28,000,000, would reduce surpluses and save the Government support expenditures.

He emphasized the importance of "renting" whole farms. If only parts go into the soil bank, he said, the farmer uses the rent to increase production on his remaining acreage, and thus costs the Government nearly as much as before in subsidies and storage charges for his surplus.

Says Elderly Would Benefit

"A dynamic land-use program will generally benefit financially the 1,200,000 low-income farm families early in the program, since many such persons will find it advantageous to retire their land," the Governor declared.

Dec. 12-15-59

"With the land-rental money, our older people can remain on the farms on which they have lived all their lives, instead of being cruelly uprooted in their later years."

As for price-support revisions, he supplied little detail. He said that "traditional systems of price supports do not provide proper assistance and rewards to modern farmers because they do not reflect modern conditions."

Herald

He called for the gradual transition to a support system "based on production costs and net income factors under modern agricultural conditions." The formula to achieve this goal, he said, "can and must be found."

Mr. Rockefeller tried to avoid making his proposals a political challenge to those in his party and the Democratic opposition.

"It seems to me that the time has come to stop quarreling over past mistakes and to stop seeking scapegoats for our present farm problems," he said.

"It is an easy thing for one political party to point a finger at the other, but a partisan approach is the worst obstacle to a sound farm program. We must not look backward to trouble but forward to a stronger agriculture in a growing economy."

The organization meeting of Citizens for Rockefeller in Minnesota elected as chairman Richard H. White, a local real estate man who once worked for a Rockefeller international business corporation.

Mr. White said the group would try to persuade Minnesota's Republican delegation to support Mr. Rockefeller at the national convention next year. In Minnesota, convention delegates are chonse by a state convention, rather than primaries.

The group maintained that Minnesota voter support for Vice President Richard M. Nixon was far below the 95 per cent cited by Edward Viehmann, Republican state chairman.

Mr. Rockefeller few here last night from St. Louis.

In St. Paul, he told 1,000 persons at a Republican luncheon that he had decided not to bring Mrs. Anne Marie Rasmussen Rockefeller, his Swedish-born daughter-in-aw, to this Scandinavian stronghold because she was too busy as a newlywed, and it might have been a slight to Mrs. Rodman Rockefeller, his other daughter-in-law.

Farm Population Decline Indicates Need For Practice Changes--Beale

The continued decline in the Negro farm population indicates the need for a change in farming practices, says Calvin L. Beale, farm population specialist of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

In an amplified version released last week of a speech he gave some months ago at Prairie View, Texas, A. and M. College, Mr. Beale points out that Negro farm people have been leaving the farm at a faster rate than the rest of the farm population. Since 1940, the Negro farm population has dropped from 4,500,000 to an estimated 2,800,000.

And between 1950 and 1954 the number of Negro farm operators declined by 92,000 leaving only 469,000. However, the drop was made up almost entirely of tenants and sharecroppers. Through the years, the number of owners has remained about the same — 182,000 in 1930 and 181,000 in 1954.

The present tenure distribution per 100 Negro farmers is about as follows; says Mr. Beale: 28 full owners, 11 part owners, 35 sharecroppers, and 26 tenants other than croppers, or a total of 39 percent owners and 61 percent tenants and croppers in the South where almost all colored farmers live. Only 22 percent of the Southern white farmers are tenants.

While the number of Negro tenants has dropped by 40 percent since the end of World War II and the number of full owners by about 20 percent, the number of part owners (those who own part of the land they farm and rent) has increased by 80 percent.

MOST PROSPEROUS

Part owners, states Mr. Beale, are the most prosperous of all farmers. They operate more land, use more machinery, and raise more acres of cash crops.

However, one big handicap to all Negro farmers, according to Mr. Beale, is their tendency to stick to traditional crops of cotton and tobacco at a time when these are in surplus, instead or raising more of a variety of products.

For example, 86 percent of the commercial-scale operators grew cotton in 1954, compared with 15 percent of the white farmers. But Mr. Beale explains that since the majority of Negro farmers are tenants, they have little means of shifting to some alternative farm enterprise as the demand for cotton and tobacco declines.

One outlet for these farmers, he suggests, is off-farm employment to supplement their farm income. The 1954 Census of Agriculture shows that 41 percent of the colored and 48 percent of the white farmers in the South did some off-farm work during the year. Seventeen percent of the colored and 33 percent of the whites worked more than 100 days off their farm.

NO MADE OPPORTUNITY

As to the future for Negro farm youth now growing up in the South, it is estimated that 17 boys are coming of age during this decade for every farm of medium or large commercial scale being vacated by an older Negro farmer through retirement or death. Thus 16 out of 17 farm youths have no ready-made opportunity to assume the operation of an adequate-size farm.

Mr. Beale points out that these problems offer a real challenge to Negro farmers and to the agencies and personnel of the U. S. Department of Agriculture and the landgrant colleges.

All small farmers face similar problems, and it is in an effort to find solutions to these problems that the Rural Development Program has been initiated.

Text Of Farm Message By 'Ike'

Price Supports Held Too High

President Urges Congress To Reduce Props

SURPLUSES ARE CITED

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—The text of President Eisenhower's farm message to Congress Thursday:

There are produced, in the United States, some 250 farm commodities. The law has required that prices of 12 of these be supported at prescribed minimum levels. It is this requirement, together with the level of required support, that has created our farm surplus problems. Farmers who produce cattle, hogs, poultry, fruits, vegetables, and various other products the prices of which are not supported—as well as those who produce crops the prices of which are supported at discretionary levels—have generally experienced growing markets rather than a build-up of stock in warehouses.

Three of the 12 mandatory products (wheat, corn, and cotton) account for about 85 per cent of the Federal inventory of price supported commodities though they produce only 20 per cent of the total cash farm income.

Says Program Hasn't Worked

The price-support and production-control program has not worked.

1. Most of the dollars are spent on the production of a relatively few large producers.

Nearly a million and a half farms produce wheat. Ninety per cent of the expenditures for price support on wheat result from production of about half of these farms—the largest ones.

Nearly a million farms produce cotton. Seventy-five per cent of the expenditures for cotton price support result from production of about one-fourth of these farms—the largest ones.

For other supported crops, a similary disproportionate share of the expenditure goes to the large producers.

For wheat, cotton and rice producers who have allotments of 100 acres or more, the net budgetary expenditures per farm for the present fiscal year are approximately as follows:

Wheat—$ 7,000 per farm
Cotton—$10,000 per farm
Rice —$10,000 per farm

Though some presently unknown share of these expenditures will eventually be recovered through surplus disposal, the final cost of the operation will undoubtedly be impressively large.

Clearly, the existing price support program channels most of the dollars to those who store the surpluses and to relatively few producers of a few crops. It does little to help the farmers in greatest difficulty. For small operators the rural development program approach, which helps develop additional sources of income, has clearly demonstrated that it is a far batter alternative.

'It Doesn't Control'

2. The control program doesn't control.

Mandatory supports are at a level which so stimulates new technology and the flow of capital into production as to offset, in large part, the control effort.

Despite acreage allotments and marketing quotas, despite a large soil bank program and despite massive surplus disposal, Government investment in farm commodities will soon be at a new record high. On July 1, 1959, total Government investment in farm commodities will total $9.1 billion. Investment in commodities for which price support is mandatory will total $7.6 billion, of which $7.5 billion will consist of those crops designated by law as basic commodities: Wheat, corn, cotton, rice, peanuts, and tobacco. And these stocks are increasing rather than diminishing.

We already hold such huge stocks of wheat that if not one bushel of the oncoming crop were harvested we would still have more than enough for domestic use, export sales, foreign donation and needed carry-over for an entire year.

3. The program is excessively expensive.

When the 1958 crops have come into Government ownership, the cost, in terms of storage, interest and other charges, of managing our inventory of supported crops, for which commercial markets do not exist at the support levels, will be running at a staggering rate, in excess of a billion dollars a year. Unless fundamental changes are made, this annual cost will rise.

Comparison Made

This sum is approximately equal to the record amount being spent in fiscal 1960 by the Federal Government on all water resource projects in the United States including power, flood control, reclamation and improvement of rivers and harbors.

During the present fiscal year, the net budgetary outlay for programs for the stabilization of farm prices and farm income will be $5.4 billion. $4.3 billion of this is for commodities for which price supports are mandatory. While some unpredictable part of this outlay will be recovered in later years through sales for dollars, sales for foreign currency and through barter, the cost will be great, especially when compared with the net income of all farm operators in the United States, which in 1958 was $13 billion. Budgetary expenditures primarily for the support of farm prices and farm income are now equal to about 40 per cent of net farm income.

Not a bushel of wheat nor a pound of cotton present is exported without direct cost to the Federal Treasury.

Heavy costs might be justifiable if they were temporary, if they were solving the problems of our farmers, and if they were leading to a better balance of supplies and markets. But unfortunately this is not true.

These difficulties are not to be attributed to any failure on the part of our farm people, who have done an outstanding

job of producing efficiently. They have in fact responded to the price incentive as farm people—and other people—traditionally have.

Deserve To Build Markets

Our farm families deserve programs that build markets. Instead they have programs that lose markets. This is because the overall standards for the programs that they have are outdated relationships that existed nearly half a century ago. This was before 60 per cent of our present population was born.

At that time it took 106 man hours to grow and harvest 100 bushels of wheat. In recent years it has taken not 106 but 22. Since then the yield of wheat has doubled. Similar dramatic changes have occurred for other crops.

It is small wonder that a program developed many years ago to meet the problems of depression and war is ill-adapted to a time of prosperity, peace, and revolutionary changes in production.

The need to reduce the incentives for excess production has been explicit in the three special messages on agriculture which I have previously sent to the Congress. The point has repeatedly been made by the secretary of agriculture in his testimony and in his statements to the Congress. The Congress has moved in the right direction but by an insufficient amount. There has been a general tendency to underestimate the pace at which farm technology has been moving forward. Hence there has been a tendency to underestimate the production-inducing effect of the prescribed minimum price support levels.

Recommendation Stated

Recommendation:

I recommended that prices for those commodities subject to mandatory supports be related to a percentage of the average market price during the immediately preceding years. The appropriate percentage of the average market price should be discretionary with the secretary of agriculture at level not less than 75 and not more than 90 per cent of such average in accordance with the general guidelines set forth in the law. Growers of corn, our most valuable crop, have already chosen, by referendum vote, program changes which include supports based on such an average of market prices.

If, despite the onrush of science in agriculture, resulting in dramatic increases in yields per acre, the Congress still prefers to relate price supports to existing standards, the secretary should be given discretion to establish the level in accordance with the guidelines now fixed by law for all commodities except those for which supports presently are mandatory.

Either of these changes would be constructive. The effect of either would be to reconcile the farm program with the facts of modern agriculture, to reduce the incentive for unrealistic production, to move in the direction of easing production controls, to permit the growth of commercial markets and to cut the cost of Federal programs.

As we move to realistic farm programs, we must continue our vigorous efforts further to expand markets and find additional outlets for our farm products, both at home and abroad. In these efforts, there is an immediate and direct bearing on the cause of world peace. Food can be a powerful instrument for all the free world in building a durable peace. We and other surplus-producing nations must do our very best to make the fullest constructive use of our abundance of agricultural products to this end. These past four years our special export programs have provided friendly food-deficit nations with four billion dollars worth of farm products that we have in abundance. I am setting steps in motion to explore anew with other surplus-producing nations all practical means of utilizing the various agricultural surpluses of each in the interest of reinforcing peace and the well-being of friendly peoples throughout the world—in short, using food for peace.

Benson To Give Details

Certain details regarding the needed changes in law, particularly with reference to wheat, are appended to this message in the form of a memorandum to me from the secretary of agriculture.

Difficulties of the present program should not drive us to programs which would involve us in even greater trouble. I refer to direct payment programs, which could soon make virtually all farm people dependent, for a large share of their income, upon annual appropriations from the Federal Treasury. I refer also to various multiple price programs, which would tax the American consumer so as to permit sale for feed and export at lower prices.

To assist the Congress in discharging its responsibility, the Administration stands ready, always, to provide the appropriate committee with studies, factual data and judgments. Continuation of the price support and production control programs in their present form would be intolerable.

I urge the Congress to deal promptly with this problem.

Dwight D. Eisenhower

The White House,
Jan. 29, 1959.

Negroes Desert Farms In Droves

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Since 1940, the Negro farm population has dropped from 4,500,000 to an estimated 2,800,000.

And between 1950 and 1954 the number of Negro farm operators declined by 92,000 leaving only 468,000. However, the drop was made up almost entirely of tenants and sharecroppers. Through the years, the number of owners has remained about the same—182,000 in 1930 and 181,000 in 1954.

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While the number of Negro tenants has dropped by 40 per cent since the end of World War II, and the number of full owners by about 20 per cent, the number of part owners (those who own part of the land they farm and rent the rest) has increased by 80 per cent.

Part owners, states Beale, are the most prosperous of all farmers. They operate more land, use more machinery, and raise more acres of cash crops.

However, one big handicap to all Negro farmers, according to Beale, is their tendency to stick to traditional crops of cotton and tobacco at a time when these are in surplus, instead of raising more of a variety of products.

For example, 86 per cent of the commercial-scale operators grew cotton in 1954, compared with 15 per cent of the white farmers. But Beale explains that since the majority of Negro farmers are tenants, they have little means of shifting to some alternative farm enterprise as the demand for cotton and tobacco declines.

One outlet for these farmers, he suggests, is off-farm employment to supplement their farm income. The 1954 Census of Agriculture shows that 41 per cent of the colored and 48 per cent of the white farmers in the South did some off-farm work during the year. Seventeen per cent of the colored and 33 per cent of the whites worked more than 100 days off their farm.

As to the future for Negro farm youth now growing up in the South, it is estimated that 17 boys are coming of age during this decade for every farm of medium or large commercial scale being vacated by an older Negro farmer through retirement or death. Thus 16 out of 17 farm youths have no ready-made opportunity to assume the operation of an adequate-size farm.

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Altogether, 4,629,000 persons were at work on farms in the region. Of these, 3,091,000 were family members, and 1,538,000 were hired workers. The latter accounted for 62 per cent of the rise in the work force. A year ago the South's farm employment figure stood at 4,388,000.

Early harvest of cotton, peanuts, and some other crops, and good weather for field work were large factors in the employment increase. Also the cotton crop, grown mainly in the South, is estimated to be 28 per cent larger than in 1958. Production is expected to total 14,678,000 bales, compared with only 11,512,000 last year.

Throughout the United States, 9,336,000 persons were at work on farms in September. Wages, without board or room, ranged from $10.50 a day in Connecticut down to $4.00 in South Carolina.

1b 1959

HOME DEMONSTRATION CLUBS

2,500 HD Women Hear Morehouse College Head

The home does not exist in isolation — it is a part of a community, a state, a nation and the world, declared Dr. Benjamin Mays of Atlanta, Ga., president of Morehouse College, in an address here yesterday.

Considering the theme, "Today's Homes Build Tomorrow's World," Dr. Mays told his audience of more than 2,500 Negro Home Demonstration women that they should also think in terms of "today's world builds tomorrow's homes."

Dr. Mays spoke at the 17th Annual State Council meeting of Home Demonstration Clubs which was held here in Memorial Auditorium. He was introduced by R. E. Jones of A&T College in Greensboro. Mrs. Lillie Perry of Chatham County, council president, presided.

"When you talk about tomorrow's world," Dr. Mays said, "I take it that you do not mean a Communist world or a Fascist world. I do not believe you are talking about the kind of world the most reactionary states in America are trying to build. Where they are trying to hold the line, maintain the status quo. Where they talk about maintaining a way of life, meaning segregation. Where men are taught to disobey and not conform to the decisions of the U. S. Supreme Court . . . Certainly, that is the kind of political leadership we get in our neck of the woods.

"I believe you are talking about a democratic world," he continued. "A world where there is equality under the law. I believe you are talking about the American dream of justice and equality for all . . . I assume that this world of tomorrow is the world of Christian society, where each person is of intrinsic worth and value."

Homes should not only be free from poverty and ignorance, Dr. Mays said, but they should be religious homes, homes where religious values are known and taught. Homes should also be the place where children are taught to walk with dignity and pride.

Homes should be free from prejudice, he stressed. Children must be taught to love and not to hate. Prejudice, he pointed out, is not inborn, it is taught. "If we could liquidate all the older people and give the children a chance," he remarked, "things would be better."

At the morning session, greetings were brought by Mrs. Geneva Hardy, president of the Northwestern District; Mrs. Viola Green of the Southeastern District; and Mrs. Gladys Gilreath of the Western District. Special music was given by the St. Augustine College Choir under the direction of J. C. Moore. Thomas Thornley was the accompanist.

Gift To Foundation.

On behalf of the council, Mrs. Vera Slade of Hertford County presented a gift to the 4-H Foundation, whose major project is a camp in Onslow County.

During the afternoon session, Mrs. Lizzette Pearsall of Pender County, presided. On behalf of the council, Mrs. Carrie S. Wilson presented a gift to Mrs. Estelle T. Nixon of Durham, who for many years served as secretary-treasurer of the Home Demonstration Loan Fund. Scenes depicting the homemaking achievements in the State were presented by representatives from New Hanover, Pender, Lenoir, Wayne, Johnston, Nash, Franklin, Northampton, Vance, Edgecombe, Iredell and Union counties. Mrs. Ashley Powell of Wake County was the narrator.

DR. BENJAMIN MAYS AND MRS. LILLIE PERRY
. . . Speaker and HD State Council President.

RURAL HOME Improvement [illegible] home demonstration agents, supervisors, and specialists are shown discussing ways of making their work more effective in serving rural homemakers. The symposium was a feature of the recent second annual convention in Jackson, Miss., of the National Negro Home Demonstration Agents Association. From left are: Miss Gladys W. Williams, Pulaski, Tenn.; Mrs. Clothilde M. Shivers, Camden, Ark.; Mrs. Vivian Y. Smith, Colfax, La.; Miss M. Earle Gaddis, state home demonstration agent of Mississippi; Mrs. Willie L. Taylor, Grenada, Miss.; Miss Stella L. Mitchell, home management specialist of the Federal Extension Service, Washington; Mrs. Fannie J. Taylor, Bryan, Texas; Mrs. Lillie M. Alexander, extension program leader for Southern States, Washington; Mrs. Dorothy Barden, Perry, Ga., and Mrs. Ethel M. Powell, Jacksonville, Fla. (USDA Photo)

National Home Demonstration Agents Hold Annual Meeting In Jackson

JACKSON, Miss. — "The Home Demonstration Agent's Challenge to the Management of Resources," was topic for discussion when the Negro home demonstration agent met recently in their second annual meeting which convened in the Masonic Temple auditorium.

Representatives from eight states attended. States represented were Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee and Texas. The president, Mrs. Lillian Palmer, of atchez, Miss., presided.

The program opened Tuesday morning with words of welcome and purpose from Mrs. Daisy Lewis, district agent, South Mississippi; Dr. Clay Lyle, dean and director, Mississippi State university;

PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

Jerome E. Lindsay, president of Metropolitan Jackson Chamber of Commerce; W. E. Ammons, leader, Negro Man's Work, Mississippi and H. F. Sampson, dean of instruction, Jackson college.

Mrs. Bernice D. McKay, first vice president, presided and music was furnished by the Mississippi County Agent's quartette.

The president, Mrs. Palmer, in her annual address pointed out the advantages of managing all family resources, while A. H. Fuhr, Farm Credit Administration, USDA talked about "Managing the Family Finance" emphasizing credit, wills, insurance and household expenditures.

With Miss M. Earl Gaddis, state home demonstration agent, of Mississippi, presiding and specialists and home demonstration Agents from seven states participating, the theme of the meeting was discussed.

Miss Stella Mitchell, work simplification and housing equipment specialist, and Mrs. Lillie M. Alexander, program leader of the Southern States, both of the USDA, served as consultants.

They showed and told the group how to manage resources (labor, capital and personal qualities.)

L. J. Washington, Farm Ownership Division, USDA, talked to the group about farm housing.

ANNUAL BANQUET

At the annual banquet, Sherman Briscoe, specialist in Information, USDA was guest speaker. He talked about "Accelerating the Extension Program Through Mass Communications."

Mrs. Georgia D. Sanders, second vice president, presided. Mesdames Jennie Wright, farm and home development specialist, of Arkansas and Carolyn Washington, home economic department, Utica Junior college, Miss., furnished the music.

Special recognition was given supervisors and district agents Mesdames P. R. Brown, Texas; Amelia Lewis, Louisiana; Daisy M. Lewis, Mississippi; Mattie Copeland, Georgia; Esther W. Reed, Mississippi, and Marguerite P. Williams and Jennie Wright, both of Arkansas.

Special features of the meeting were demonstrations by representatives of the Pet and Carnation Milk companies; a reception held at College Park Club souse; a tour of the Pet Milk Company plant; a trip to the 4-H Training center at Canton; a banquet and a dance at Stevens Rose room.

Cold Drinks were served courtesy of the Jackson Cocoa Cola Company with E. L. Lipscomb, host.

1b 1959 LOUISTANA

'Farm Family Of Year' 3rd Generation Of Farmers

The Leroy Elloises of New Roads, La., recently chosen Louisiana's colored "Farm Family of the Year" by Southern university, are third generation vegetable growers who gross more than $3,000 a year off this sideline crop, reports R. J. Courtney, assistant state extension agent.

Although living in a river bottom area where most of the farmers depend almost entirely on cotton, the Elloises have been growing vegetables as one of their main cash crops for nearly 50 years, says Courtney. And he thinks they have set a pattern in diversified farming which suggests a way out of many hard pressed small farmers.

JOSEPH IN 1910

The first Ellois to raise vegetables for market was Joseph, grandfather of the present generation. Around 1910 he began raising and peddling a few cabbages, collards, and string beans.

Gradually he and his son Edward, father of Leroy, expanded production. By the time Edward took over operation of the farm 30 years ago, they were raising six acres of truck for the local market and were the largest vegetable growers in Pointe Coupee Parish.

Leroy's father not only continued to expand vegetable production, but also stepped up the quality of their pecans to make them a good commercial crop by setting out 60 trees of improved variety to replace the native stock. He was one of the first in his parish to abandon native trees.

As a result of his foresight and that of some of the other farmers in the parish, Pointe Coupe is to day Louisiana's largest pecan producer. Some years the Elloises have sold as many as 5,000 pounds of pecans.

Edward Ellois has now retired after years of partnership with Leroy, and has turned over most of his 200 acres to him. Last year the younger Ellois had 15 acres in truck in addition to 16 in cotton and 18 in corn.

ONCE A WEEK

The vegetable operation has expanded far beyond the peddling stage. Ellois now sells by the truckload. Once a week during the season—September to May—he loads up his one-ton pickup with onions, cauliflower, okra, string beans, tomatoes, spinach and other products and heads into town where he meets vegetable truckers from New Orleans and hime $60 to $100.

Mr. and Mrs. Ellois have had helpful advice from their county agent, Thomas J. Smith, who has given them pointers on truck crop production and on ways of increasing their corn and cotton yields. Over the years, they have increased their cotton yield from a little over a bale to two bales per acre, and their corn from 45 to 110 bushels per acre.

PROVIDES EDUCATION

In addition to growing good crops of cotton and corn and truck for market, Mr. and Mrs. Ellois grow just about everything they eat. Through the years income and savings from the farm have provided the Elloises with a good living and excellent educational advantages.

Ellois has one brother and four sisters. His brother teaches at Southern university, one sister is principal of the local school, another is a teacher, the third is a registered nurse, and the fourth is a housewife.

Mr. and Mrs. Ellois' own children are equipping themselves for service, too. Twenty-year-old Willard is studying agriculture at Southern, and his sister Elaine, who will finish high school this year, wants to be a home economist.

In receiving the award from Southern university, Ellois said he was accepting the trophy for the whole Ellois family, and especially for his father and grandfather who laid the foundation for the achievement.

FAMILY OF THE YEAR — Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Ellois, who were recently chosen Louisiana's "Farm Family of the Year" by Southern University, are shown in their yard which overlooks False river near New Roads, La. Mr. Ellois' father, Edward, lives in the house next door. — USDA Photo

THIRD GENERATION TRUCK FARMER — Leroy Ellois, New Roads, La., truck farmer whose family was honored recently by Southern University as Louisiana's "Farm Family of the Year," is shown with his vegetable truck loaded and ready to head for town. Looking at the quality of his products are, left to right: County Agent Thomas J. Smith, Assistant State Extension Agent R. J. Courtney, and P. H. Stone of the Federal Extension office in Washington, extreme right. Mr. Ellois is a third generation truck farmer. — USDA Photo

TRANSPLANTING SCENE IN GREENE—Tobacco is shown being transplanted on the farm of O. P. Miller near Snow Hill, an activity that will increase when tobacco fields finish soaking up recent rains. Joe Mewborn drives the tractor. Albert Jerning and Elijah Brown set the plants. (Photo by Bob Aiken Jr., Snow Hill).

Mechanization Costs Farmers $8 Billion

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Farmers spend more than eight billion dollars a year on mechanized equipment, according to an Agriculture Department survey.

This goes for purchase, operation, and maintenance.

In 1955, the major part of the huge cash outlay went to buy new or used cars, trucks and farm machines. After reducing the value of trade-ins and sales, farmers paid nearly $3,700,000,000 for motor vehicles and machinery.

They spent another $4,400,000,000 to keep this equipment going. Fuel and lubricants required $2,400,000,000. Repair and maintenance costs rant to $1,600,000,000. Other expenses, such as registration, license fees and insurance, came to about $400,000,000.

In all, the mechanization bill in 1955 averaged $1,700 per farm. For farms with a sales volume of $10,000 or more, it averaged $4,400. Small farmers, with sales of less than $1,200 (but who had incomes from off-farm work), had mechanical costs slightly under $800.

1b 1959

WORN OUT LAND DIDN'T STOP BROOKHAVEN FARMERS SUCCESS

Unlike some owners who give up when they discover that the land they have bought is worn out, Clinton Hall of Brookhaven, Miss., patiently built his back to high productivity.

"His achievement is a good example for farmers throughout the South," says W. E. Ammons, State leader of Negro Extension work in Mississippi.

When Mr. Hall bought the 80 acres of knolls and hollows from his aged father years ago, Mr. Ammons explains, the cotton yield was down to a quarter of a bale to the acre, and young corn yellowed in the field from lack of nourishment.

But Mr. Hall got busy filling in the hollows and gullies with leaves. "I guess I hauled 300 wagonloads of leaves," says the energetic farmer.

Then he applied to his Soil Conservation District for help and a conservation technician came out and mapped his farm and aided him in developing a plan for sound conservation farming. This included building some terraces, establishing a pattern of contour tillage, draining some areas, and improving and expanding his pastures.

His county agent, R. C. Paige, assisted him in following the plan, and encouraged him to improve the quality of his livestock through breeding and better feeding methods.

Today Mr. Hall has 21 head of high grade beef cattle, his cotton yield is up to a bale to the acre on his four-acre allotment, and his corn output sometimes exceeds 100 bushels per acre.

Returns from these crops and livestock, plus his Social Security, backed up by hogs and chickens and a year-round garden mean a good living for him and his wife and their three grandchildren.

The home freezer is full, and their attractive home, which Mr. Hall built mostly by himself out of timber off his own place, is spacious and comfortable.

Their home demonstration agent, Mrs. Addie H. Jones, has given Mrs. Hall pointers on home-canning and home-freezing and yard beautification.

Mr. and Mrs. Hall were married 44 years ago. During the lean years when yields were low, he took a job at a lumber mill and became a part-time farmer. He retired from the mill some time ago and since then has been devoting his full tmie to farming.

"I am thinking about getting out of cotton," says Mr. Hall, "it takes too much labor at my age."

REPAIRING "TRACTOR" — Seven-year-old Leonard, who plans to follow in his grandfather's footsteps, is repairing his top tractor while the family and the State 4-H club agent look on. Left to right: Granddaughter Linda, Mr. Hall, Mrs. Hall, granddaughter Sandra, and Miss Alberta Dishmon, 4-H club leader. Note attractive home. USDA Photo.

Worn-Out Land And Miss. Farmer Produce High Yield

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SOIL CONVERSATION

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CONTOUR TILLAGE — Clifton Hall, center, Brookhaven, Miss., is proud of the rich top soil he is holding on his farm by halting erosion through contour tillage and other improved practices. Note how the rows of cotton curve to slow down rain water runoff. With him in his field are County Agent R. C. Paige, left, and State Leader W. E.

MR. AND MRS. ISAAC DANIELS on the lawn in front of their modern home at Mound Bayou, Miss. They own close to 1,000 acres; a little more than 20 years ago they were tenant farmers—USDA Photo.

Homemakers School Slated At Tuskegee

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE — The members of the executive council of Alabama Assn. New Homemakers of America will hold a workshop at Tuskegee Institute on Friday, Jan. 30 and Saturday, Jan. 31.

The workshop will begin with a buffet supper in the Pine Room of Dorothy Hall. The sessions will be held in the Peabody Room of Dorothy Hall.

The youth who are members of the executive council are: Mary Jean Smith, president, Lakeside High School, Decatur; Mildred Wilson, vice president, Central District, West Side High School, Talladega; Minnie Barnes, vice president, Central District, Laurel High School, Alexander City; Mildred Davis, vice president Central District, Carver High School, Eutaw, Ala.

Lucile Nobles, vice president, Northeast District, Council Training School, Normal; vice president, Norma Whaley, Southeast District, Carver High School, Dothan; Edna Fuller, vice president, Southeast District, Thomasville Public High School, Thomasville, Ala.; Lillie Lou Solid, vice president, Southwest District, North Sumter High School, Panola, Ala.; Emma Fonte, vice president, Northwest District, Pickens County Training School, Carrollton; Margaret Storey, secretary, Talladega County Training School, Talladega; Bernice Ellington, assistant secretary; Carver High School, Eutaw; Jean Johnson, sergeant-at-arms, Sandtown High School, Elmore, Ala.; Dorothy Bankston, parliamentarian, Lakeside High School, Decatur, and Gloria Smith, reporter, Pike County Training School, Brundidge.

Their respective advisors are Miss Priscilla Romine, Lakeside High School, Decatur; Mrs. Mildred Maxwell, West Side High School, Talladega; Miss Emma Swain, Laurel High School, Alexander City; Mrs. Earline Underwood, Carver High School, Eutaw; Mrs. Mildred Tapscott and Mrs. Evangeline Spillman; Council Training School, Normal; Mrs. Flora Tyson and Mrs. Marylee R Parker, Carver High school, Dothan.

The district coordinators will also be in attendance, they are: Mrs. Zentherine Rhone, coordinator, Central District, Chambers County Training School, LaFayette; Miss Willie M. Robinson, coordinator, Northwest District, Fairfield Industrial High School; Mrs. Edna A. stephens, coordinator, Northeast District, Gregory High School, Collinsville; Mrs. Mary Rodgers, coordinators, Southwest District, Clarke County Training School, Coffeeville and Mrs. Viola M. Adams, coordinator, Southeast District, Covington County Training School, Andalusia.

The workshop will be conducted by Mrs. Bettye Steele Turner, state advisor, Alabama Assn. New Homemakers of America, and assistant supervisor, Home Economics Education.

N.C. Homemakers Meet Draws Throng Of 1,400

RALEIGH, N. C. — Some 1,400 delegates attended the recent statewide meeting of the North Carolina New Homemakers of America at Memorial auditorium here.

Major Maxwell S. Whittington of the U. S. chaplain's corps, Ft. Jackson, S. C., addressed the session on "Better Homes for Better Living."

Major Whittington asserted "Freedom can not survive when and if the education al function is taken from the home."

The speaker said happiness in the home depends upon five major functions: biological educational, social, moral, and religious.

ON THE RELIGIOUS function, Major Whittington remarked "...Unless the religious function is effective, there can be no happiness, there can be no homes. In previous generations it was customary for families to meet often at the family altar and there give expression to their religious convictions and spiritual life.

"However, in recent years family worship has declined to such a deplorable extent that the percentage of families practicing such in their homes is so small as almost to be negligible. J. Edgar Hoover made a point of this when he said, Our Nation is badly in need of a rebirth of the simple life a return to the days when God was a part of each household, when families arose each morning with a prayer on their lips and ended the day by gathering together to place themselves in God's care.

HONORARY membership was conferred upon Dr. Frank A. Tolliver, State Department of Public Instruction inspector of high schools.

Other highlights included awarding of advanced degrees to five students, selection of a candidate for vice president,, and the installation of officers for 1959-60.

Advanced degrees went to Frances Brown, Emma Jean Brown, Joye Fredonia Smith, Carol Miller, and Caral JoDillard, all from Douglas High School, Leaksville.

NEW OFFICERS installed were Frances Brown, Douglas High school,, Leaksville, president; Peggy Hodges, Lincoln high, Chapel Hill, vice- president; Jenny Malette, R. B. Dean school,, Maxton, secretary; Maxine Peele, Beaufort County High, Pantego, treasurer; Jean Key, Conetoe High, Conetoe, reporter; Brenda Long, J. H. Gunn High, Charlotte, parliamentarian; Carolyn Williams, Olive Hill High, Morganton, historian; and Doris Greene, Morningside High, Statesville, song leader.

400 Members, Advisors At Va, New Homemakers Meet

PETERSBURG Va. —Over 400 members of the New Home makers Association and their advisors attending the 14th annual State Convention at Virginia State college, Petersburg, were told that all the knowledge and culture in the world have never been a substitute for Christianity.

The speaker was Carolyn Reid, president of the Virginia association of the NHA.

SPEAKING ON the the me "NHA Contributes to Happy Family Life", Miss Reid stated that the family is happy when a true home is built by loyal hearts. "The home is happy," she continued, "when people dwell together with understanding."

Dr. Mildred N. Jordan, director, School of Home Economics, told the youthful delegates that a family has unity that first provides a stable base for the development of its members. "As NHA members you have an obligation to help in the ideas of the family, for the home is no more stable than its foundation," she said.

THE DELEGATES were welcomed at the opening session by Dr. J. H. Johnston, vice-president of the college. Other persons who addressed the conference were Dr. M. T. Hailey, supervisor, elementary education, State Department of Education in Virginia; J. R. Thomas, retired teacher trainer, VSC; and Mrs. Rosa H. Loving, state supervisor of home economics education, State Department of Education.

New officers for the 1959-60 year and the schools that they attend are: Miriam Thomas, Dunbar high school, Lynchburg, president; Constance Fields, Southside high school, Dinwiddie, vice-president; Jean Satchell, Mary N. Smith high school, Accomac, secretary; Mary Scott, Douglas high school Leesburg, assistant secretary; Murial Smith, A. T. Johnson high school, Westmoreland, treasurer; Margaret Dixon, Mary Bethune high school, Halifax, reporter; and Carrie Anderson, Peabody high school, Petersburg, parliamentarian.

TWO PERSONS were awarded honorary membership in the NHA on Thursday morning. They were, Mrs. Cordelia K. Powell, former teacher of home economics at the West End high school, Clarksville and Edward L. Smith, assistant director of student activities, Virginia State college.

The conference closed at noon on Thursday.

Awards Highlight 33rd Annual State Gatherina

Defender Sat 7-4-59

PETERSBURG, Va. — Over 300 members of the Virginia Association of the New Farmers of America attended the 33rd annual state convention at Virginia State college last week.

Many delegates received awards and contest prizes. Listed below together with the amount of the award and the name of the donors and their representatives are many of the recipients:

Star Modern Farmer Award ($50); Lawrence A. Wilhoite, O. R. Johnson Chapter, Culpeper, (International Harvester Company, Mr. H. M. Losson, representative); **Superior Farmer Awards** ($100 each); Earnest L. Dinkins, O. R. Johnson Chapter, Culpeper, and James E. Brown, Russell Grove Chapter, Amelia, (Ford Motor Company Fund, H. C. Meyers representative).

Dairy Farming Awards; Yancy L. Hill, O. R. Johnson Chapter Culpeper ($50) and Edgar Harris J. P. Burley Chapter, Charlottesville ($25), (Allied Chemical and Dye Corp, S. G. McKenzie, representative); **Farm & Home Improvement Awards**; Bobby Winston, M. A. Fields Chapter, Louisa ($50) and Leroy Chandler, D. A. Webb Chapter, Halifax ($25), (The Maytag Company, Charles S. Perkins, jr., representative).

Farm Electrification Awards; Lawrence A. Wilhoite, O. R. Johnson Chapter, Culpeper ($50) and Harold Bratcher, R. A. Bracey Chapter, Fluvanna ($25), (Westinghouse Educational Foundation, R. W. Slayten, representative); **Farm Mechanics Awards**; Thomas E. Younger, D. A. Webb Chapter, Halifax ($50) and Charles E. Johnson, M. A. Fields Chapter, Louisa ($25), (American Oil Company, W. E. Riley, representative).

Soil & Water Management Awards; Claude M. Buster, D. A. Webb Chapter, Halifax ($50) and William Mines, Hanover Chapter, Ashland, ($25), (Deere & Company, H. L. Gullett, representative); and **Public Speaking Awards**; Leslie Williams, Milton Valley Chapter, Clarke County ($50) and James Harvey, C. R. Vaughan . Chapter, . Brunswick County ($25), (Esso Standard Oil Company, W. J. Hubbard, representative).

It was pointed out by President Robert P. Daniel, who made the convention statement, that the Farmers of America has received one fourth of the awards amounting to $6,500 given in 16 states for the past four years. "We are indeed proud of this record," he said as he congratulated the winners.

Various contests were are follows: **Quartette**; Bright Leaf Chapter, Pittsylvania; Milton Valley Chapter, Clarke County; and J. R. Thomas Chapter, Greenville.

Livestock Judging: B. T. Washington Chapter, Franklin County; Oak Grove Chapter, Prince George; and Hillview Chapter, were: Cleveland Kirby, B. T. Washington Chapter, Franklin County; Lonnie Wright, Oak Grove Chapter, Prince George; Christopher Archer, Russell Grove Chapter, Amelia; and Norman Thompkins, Essex Chapter, Essex.

Forrestry Teams: Essex Chapter, Essex; M. A. Fields Chapter, Louisa; and Bright Leaf Chapter, Pittsylvania. Individual winners were: Robert Myers, Bright Leaf Chapter, Pittsylvania; George Johnson, Essex Chapter Essex; Curtis Wilson, M. A. Fields Chapter, Louisa; and Otis Coates Caroline Chapter, Caroline County

Talent Contest; 1st - Marion White and Edward Wainwright, Leaf Chapter, Pittsvylvania; 2nd Earl Burnette, J. J. Wright Chapter, Spotsylvania; and 3rd-Alonzo Walthall and James Hayther Mountain View Chapter, Campbell.

Quiz Contest: 1st - Edwin S. Williams, Isle of Wight I Chapter, Isle of Wight; 2nd-Norman Hutcheson, C. B. Haskins Chapter, Mecklenberg; and 3rd - George Hairston, Southside Chapter, Pittsylvania.

Officers elected for the 1959-60 year are: President, Bernard Thomas Long, D. A. Webb chapter, Halifax; 1st vice president, Charles Edward Jones, West End Chapter, Clarksville; 2nd vicenpresident, Leslie Howard Williams, Milton Valley chapter, Clarke County; 3rd vice president, Jessie L. McPhearson, Pineview chapter, King William County; secretary, Timotheous Lawing, Carver chapter, Appomattox; reporter, Lloyd Jones, C. B. Jeter chapter, Bedford; treasurer, Lawrence A. Wilhoite, O. R. Johnson chapter, Culpeper.

1,500 From 15 States Attend NFA Convention

Courier Pittsburg Pa

ATLANTA, Ga.—The 26th annual convention of the New Farmers of America National Organization was held here Sept. 28-Oct. 3. Attending this convention were more than 1,500 new farmers and their advisers, representing 15 states, 1,032 local (high school) chapters and over 47,000 members.

The New Farmers of America is a national organization of farm boys studying vocational agriculture in public secondary schools, which operate under the provisions of the National Vocational Education Acts. It is designed to develop agricultureal leadership, character, thrift, scholarship and citizenship.

The student national officers, who have directed the affairs of this organization during the past 12 months are:

Martin L. Goodson, Eutaw, Ala., president; Earl C. Freeman, Boston, Ga., secretary; three vice presidents, Doss H. Pruitt, Linden, Tex.; Wilbert Campbell, Ridge Spring, S. C., and George C. Charles, Lillie, La.; Clarence Wray Jr., Raleigh, N. C., student treasurer, and Eugene Martin Boley, Oklahoma, reporter.

Adult officers who supported the boys were: G. W. Conoly, Fla., national adviser; E. M. Norris, Texas, executive secretary; W. T. Johnson, North Carolina, executive treasurer; W. T. Spanton; U. S. Office of Education, Washington, D. C,. administrative adviser, and W. N. Elam, U. S. Office of Education, Washington, D. C., administrative executive secretary.

The convention heard as speakers: L. D. Milton, president of Citizens Trust Company, Atlanta; Jim Messerschmitt, youth specialist, National Safety Council, Chicago, Ill.; Dr. Alfred P. Haake, author and lecturer, High Oaks, Largo, Fla.; David Simmons, a Georgia dairy farmer and first national president of NFA; J. W. Warren, past national president of NFA, 1940; Dr. W. T. Spanton, U. S. Office of Education, Washington, D. C.; Merritt D. Hill, vice president, Ford Motor Company, Birmingham, Mich.; Lee Todd, national FFA vice president, Bells, Tenn., and Dr. W. T. Gibbs, president, A&T College, Greensboro, N. C.

Senior At Bedford High School

NFA's National President

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va. Sat. 10-24-59. P. 30

Is Leader Of 50,000 Boys

BEDFORD, Va. — Robert Mack, a senior at Susie Gibson High school here and president of the C. B. Jeter chapter who was elected national president of the New Farmers of America at its recent 25th national convention in Atlanta is now the leader of 50,000 youths.

The leader is the son of Mr. and Mrs. James Mack of Big Island, Va. He has served as state president and has won many local and state awards during the four years he has been studying vocational agriculture.

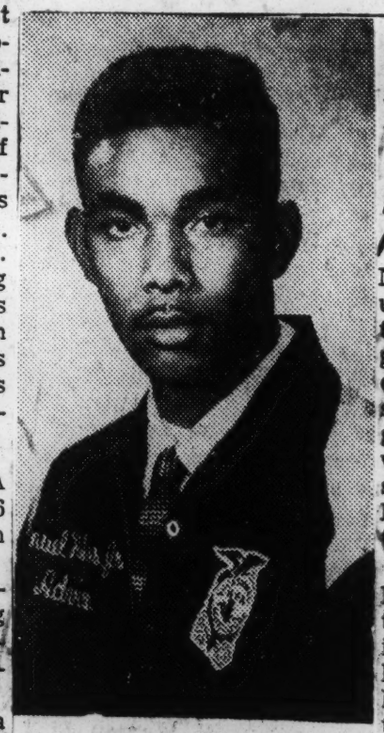
MORE THAN 1,000 NFA members and advisors from 16 states attended the convention of the national organization.

The New Farmers of America is made up of boys studying vocational agriculture in public schools throughout the United States.

Organized in Virginia in May, 1927 with a few chapters and members, it has expanded until now it numbers 1,000 chapters and 50,000 active members.

NFA IS A non - profit group which has for its purpose the development of its members in their vocational, social and recreational life. Recognition and reward for excellent performance serve to inspire and to challenge the boys.

Sam Hughes is advisor of the C. B. Jeter chapter at Gibson high. There are 82 members in the chapter this year.



ROBERT MACK
No. 1 In 50,000

Many Virginians Win At NFA's 25th Meet

The Pittsburg Courier
Pittsburg, Pa.
Dec. 5, 1959

PETERSBURG, Va.—Virginia's New Farmers of America continue its outstanding participation in the program of the national organization, which convened in celebration of its silver anniversary in Atlanta recently. The delegation of 47 students and adults was the largest group to represent Virginia in an out-of-state NFA meeting since the organization was founded in 1935.

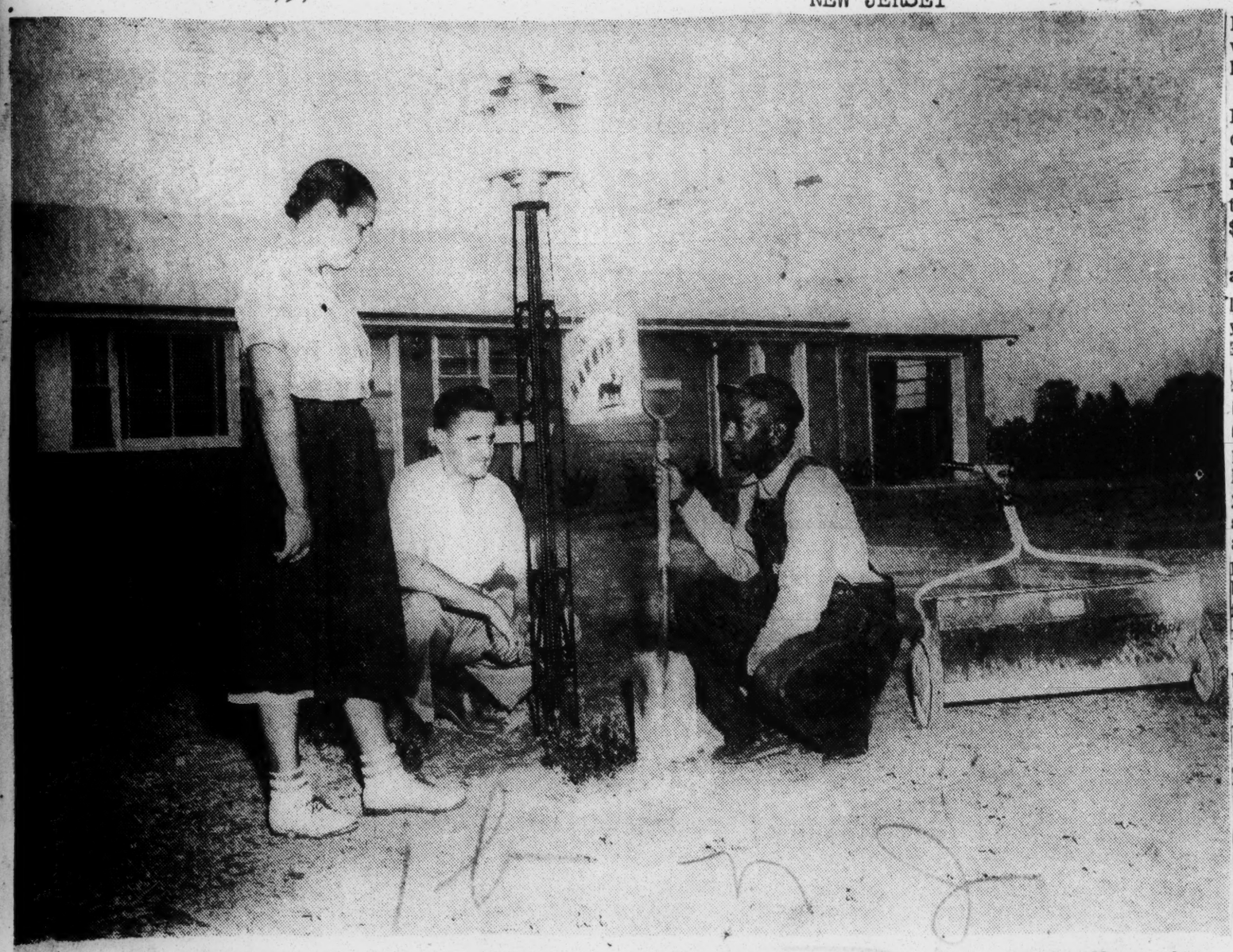
Six of the seven national FFA Foundation Awards, available to the Washington section, comprising the states of Delaware, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia, were won by the Old Dominion State. Virginia has earned five or more of these seven awards in each of the past five years, netting approximately $7,000 to outstanding farm youth.

Included in the delegation were J. R. Thomas, retired state teacher-trainer and former advisor and executive secretary of the national organization; Floyd Carter of Rochelle, national N. O. Sargent Award winner and recipient of a check for $500; Ernest Dinkins of Rixeyville, sectonal superior farmer degree winner and recipient of checks for $100 and $250; Lawrence Wilhoite of Rapidan, National Farm Electrification award winner, $200; Yancey Hill of Criglersville, sectional dairy farm award winner, $100;

Thomas Younger of Halifax, sectional farm mechanic award winner, $100, and Bobby Winston of Trevilians, sectional farm and home improvement winner, $100.

Others in the delegation were the livestock judging team from Rocky Mount composed of Cleveland Kirby, Charlie Brown, Richard Claytor and William Edwards, and Marvin White and James Wainwright of Gretna, national talent contestants; the national quiz contestant, Edwin Williams of Smithfield, and F. W. Nicholas, recipient of the highest national award, the Honorary Superior Farmer degree, and adviser of the chapter from which Carter, Dinkins, Wilhoite and Hill hail.

In the group also were C. B. Jeter, area supervisor, who was director of the silver anniversary exhibit and superintendent of the national livestock judging contest; M. A. Fields, state adviser, who edited the 15-year-history of the organization and served as general secretary of the convention; O. R. Johnson, teacher-trainer, Virginia State College, and Dr. John L. Lockett, director of the School of Agriculture at Virginia State College, who was the recipient of the coveted Honorary Superior Farmer degree.



BETTER FARM HOMES—A sample of the improved rural housing made possible by the ...ed-up loan program of the U. S. Department of Agriculture's Farmers Home Administration is this attractive new home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Harris of Brigeton, N. J. They are getting pointers on lawn seeding from Farmers Home Area Supervisor Stephen W u r n, center.—USDA Photo

New Farm Housing Changes Face Of U.S. Countryside

BRIDGETON, N. J. — The stepped-up farm housing loan program of the U. S. Department of Agriculture is helping to put a new face on the countryside. Many of the rundown homes formerly occupied by families who were unable to obtain adequate credit to provide themselves with better housing, have been replaced by attractive dwellings as a result of the expanded farm housing construction loan program of the Department's Farmers Home Administration.

Under the broader program, which was liberalized in March of 1958, Farmers Home made loans of $52 million during the past year to 7,450 families. This was more than twice as many as received such loans in 1957.

ELIGIBLE FOR LOAN

Farm owners who produce as little as $400 worth of products for sale or home use are now eligible for a housing loan from the agency, provided they are unable to obtain adequate credit elsewhere and have sufficient income to repay the four percent loan over a 33-year period.

Among the farm families who received housing loans last year are Mr. and Mrs. Frank Harris, part-time farmers of Bridgeton, N. J. For 15 years they had been living in a house on the dairy farm where Harris is employed as a handyman.

During most of these years, the Harrises wanted to build a home of their own on their 25-acre farm nearby, but somehow they were never quite able to manage it until Farmers Home made them an $11,300 loan last June.

They added $1,200 to it and built an attractive two-bedroom rambler for themselves and their 16-year-old daughter Dorothy.

33 YEARS

Although Mr. and Mrs. Harris have 33 years in which to repay their loan, they say they don't plan to take anything like that long. In addition to his $4,500-a-year job at the dairy, Harris does some farming on the side. By 9 a. m. every morning he has completed five hours at the dairy barn, and is ready to work his own farm until late afternoon when he returns to his job.

He raises nine acres of soybeans, eight of corn, two of tomatoes, and two of nursery stock — evergreens, azaleas, and pyracanthas. These brough him a gross of about $1,200 last year. Mrs. Harris helps out by doing housework by the day in town.

Mr. and Mrs. Harris were born and reared in the Bridgeton area. They plan to increase their income from farming by concentrating more and more on nursery stock.

FARM PLANNING — Mr. and Mrs. Frank Harris, Bridgeton, N.J., are getting help in planning their farming operations from L. J. Washington, standing, an assistant to the Administrator of the Farmers Home Administration. The agency made them a loan to build this new home. They plan to speed up the repayment by increasing their farm output. Harris also has a full-time job on a dairy farm. USDA Photo

Prizes Awarded In Yam Contest

WASHINGTON, N. C. — Eleven Negro 4-H Club members received prizes for their entries of one bushel each in the second annual Beaufort County sweet potato show here.

Blue ribbon winners were James Arthur Whitfield, who received the grand champion award; Shirley Smaw, reserve champion winner; Richard Danny and Oycletta Roberson.

Red ribbon winners included Willa Corey, Alphonza Corey, Mary Foskey, Verbrata Roberson and Joffie Foreman. Receiving white ribbons were Elsie Sue Hodges and Lillian Foreman.

Both the top winners are members of the Chocowinity elementary school 4-H Club.

The three top winners will compete in a 14-county district contest at Rich Square on Feb. 28. A judging team to represent the county also will be selected.

The show was sponsored for the second year by the Beaufort County Farm Bureau. Prizes were awarded by Harry Hodges Jr., president of the organization.

BEAUFORT COUNTY Farm Bureau President Harry Hodges Jr. presents awards to winners in the county's junior sweet potato show. James Arthur Whitfield exhibited the grand champion bushel of yams, and Shirley Smaw showed the reserve champion bushel. In rear are W. G. Pierce, Wilson County Negro agricultural agent, and T. W. Flowers, extension horticulture specialist, Greensboro, who judged the contest, and C. L. Bright, Negro agent in Beaufort County.

3/8

Progress Of 66,000 Negro Farmers In N. C. Is Cited

RALEIGH, N. C. — Progress of the 66,000 Negro farmers of North Carolina is described in the recently released annual report of the state Extension service.

The report says that more than 500,000 colored people in the state are directly dependent upon agriculture for a livelihood, and many more thousands are employed in industries which depend upon agriculture for their raw materials.

Although the average size of farms operated by Negroes in the State is only 43 acres, compared with 77.5 for white farmers, through sound management and higher agricultural skills, many of these Negro farmers are earning a good living, the report continues.

THE SUCCESS of these farmers is attributed in large part to the work of farm and home demonstration agents. In 1910 the Negro staff consisted of ne agent who served three counties. Today there are 137 agents, supervisors, and specialists assisting farm families in 52 counties.

Last year these workers gave advice and counsel to 45,110 farm families and 21,737 rural nonfarm families. These included more than 50,000 4-H club boys and girls. Some of these 4-H'ers, for example are in poultry chains which accelerate the distribution of better quality flocks. There are 30 such chains in the state. Members of the chains raised 15,629 birds last year.

ASSISTING the county agents in serving these youngsters is poultry specialist Charles L. Davis. Other specialists on the staff, working under the direction of state agent R. E. Jones are: Thomas W. Flowers in horticulture; Mrs. G. K. Greenlee in clothing and home management; Samuel J. Hodges Jr., agronomy; Mrs. Bessie B. Ramseur, nutrition and food conservation; and Robert I. Wynn, dairying.

The extension report is incorporated in the annual report of the school of agriculture of North Carolina State college.

Negro Farm Bureau Meet Is Planned

GREENSBORO—More than 500 are expected to attend the 11th annual educational meeting of Negro Farm Bureau Members on the campus of A & T College Friday for a program outlining Bureau plans for the year.

They also will make recommendations on Negro Farm Bureau activities, according to Federation President B. C. Mangum of Rougemont.

Delegates will be welcomed at 10:30 a.m. Mrs. Irby Walker, director of women's activities will outline the women's program.

After Mrs. Walker's report, a discussion on county Farm Bureau programing will be held by members from Franklin County. J. W. Jeffries, retired assistant state agent for Negro extension work, will speak to the group on "How Farm Bureau Can Be Used as a Tool by Farmers."

At 11:45 a.m., O. R. Long, director of field services for the American Farm Bureau, will speak on "The Future of Agriculture" from a national viewpoint.

An hour lunch break from 12:30 to 1:30 will be followed by a report from Federation President B. C. Mangum, and a review of Commodity Programs and Progress in North Carolina by Will H. Rogers, director of organization for the Federation.

Federation Executive Vice-President A. C. Edwards will outline Bureau activities in the legislative field and point to "the challenge facing farm people."

Beginning at 3:45 p.m. delegates to the meeting will consider recommendations drafted by the Negro Steering Committee dealing with Negro agricultural programs. Recommendations of the group will be passed on to the Federation's board of directors for action.

1b 1959

Retired Teacher Becomes Rancher, World Traveler

49th State Visitor

HOUSTON — Mrs Lula B. McCain was an interesting visitor in the city and was never at a loss for something to talk about. She is a retired school teacher, a turkey rancher, a world traveler, and a recent visitor in Cuba.

The versatile ex-school teacher included Houston on her mid-winter vacation and is slated to re-visit Houston on her return to the United States. She is now on a tour of South America and around the Carribean.

Mrs McCain's mid-winter vacation is the second for her in less than a year. She has recently visited in Alaska and was in Cuba during last year's revolution.

In addition to Houston, the rancher is vacationing in Mexico City, Guatemmala, Panama City, Columbia, Ecuador, Peru, Chili, Argentina, Sao Paula, Trinidad, Ciudad, Trujillo, Port of Prince, Kingston, Miami, Fla and New Orleans, La.

When Mrs McCain took her loving hands off of the kids in the school house, she laid them to turkey raising, and since then, many a holiday meal has been enhanced by her products. She sold more than 5000 birds at Christmastime.

In Houston, the tourist visited Mr and Mrs J. R. Bonney, 1601 Gregg, Mrs Hurd Jones, wife of the former Texas Southern Pharmacy Dean; Mrs J. T. M. Lindsay and her daughter, Miss Athene Watson, who is an art instructor at Texas Southern University.

Also Mr and Mrs W. C. Anderson and Abram Thompkins. Mrs Anderson is a teacher at Grimes Elementary School and Mr Thompkins is a history instructor at Texas Southern University.

MRS LULA B McCAIN, a Boley, Oklahoma turkey rancher and retired school teacher, included Houston on her mid-winter vacation. She is pictured with an Alaskan Brown bear at the National Bank of Fairbanks. The bear killed May 26, 1953, stands 7-feet and 9-inches, and its weight is 1500 pounds.

FARM EXPANDED by Robert Simpson, Tom, Okla., into an adequate unit for livestock production through credit aid from the Farmers Home Administration of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Top left, Mr. Simpson is in front of his recently remodeled home with FHA County Supervisor Buster E. Smith. Top right, Mr. and Mrs. Simpson discuss their prize-winning kitchen with Home Agent Dorothy A. Doakes, left. Bottom, Mr. Simpson gets pointers on pasture improvement for his 88 head of cattle from County Agent Andrew B. Murray, left, and FHA Program Staff Assistant H. D. Steoms —USDA Photo

Government Agency Helping Small Farmers To Expand

'40 Acres and Mule' Into Tractors and Adequate Units

Only a few farmers can still make headway with "40 acres and a mule." Today's farms average 242 acres, and one can travel for miles through some farming areas without ever seeing a mule.

Increasingly, small farmers are recognizing the need for enlarging the size of their operations in order to provide security for their families. But this takes money.

Some farmers have enough savings to meet the cost of expanding and developing their farms, and others are borrowing funds from banks and other private sources. Still others, who are unable to obtain adequate credit elsewhere, are turning to the Farmers Home Administration of the U.S. Department of Agriculture for direct or insured loans.

Last year 4,750 white and colored farm families borrowed $62.5 million through this agency mainly to enlarge and develop their farms. However, some of these bought farms of their own for the first time, others refinanced their debts in order to carry out a long-time farm development and expansion program.

One such family are Mr. and Mrs. Robert Simpson, who owns a 460-acre farm near Tom, Okla. They refinanced the purchase of 300 acres, obtaining enough for developing and operating their farm efficiently.

Among the improvements made were the construction of a pole barn, modernization of their home, purchase of additional brood cows, and the clearing, liming, fertilizing, and seeding of 60 acres for permanent pastures for their beef cattle herd. The latter operation cost more than $4,000. Of this amount, their Agricultural Conservation Program Service payment covered $1,700.

In making these improvements the Simpsons had the advice of their Farmers Home County supervisor, Buster E. Smith, and of the Extension Service county farm and home agents, Andrew B. Murray an Miss Dorothy A. Doakes.

Two years from now the Simpsons expect to have 120 acres in improved pastures and none in cotton. "We are tired of fighting boll weevils and worrying about bad weather," says the energetic farmer.

Today they have 54 brood cows, 32 calves, and two registered bulls—a Hereford and a Brahman—and they are aiming for 100 brood Also they raise from 50 to 60 hogs cows and four registered bulls. for market. Last year they sold 46 hogs and 17 calves in addition to nine bales of cotton.

Mr. Simpson started farming as a cotton tenant in 1912, paid down on 135 acres with all his savings four years later, and went flat broke that fall after his crop failed. "I have had my doubts about cotton ever since," he says. And it has been more cattle and less cotton for him ever since.

Twelve years ago Mr. Simpson bought 160 acres and added 300 more in 1955. The farm with its two tractors is now worth close to $40,000.

Mr. and Mrs. Simpson are said to be among the best farmers in this Red River bottom area. They have been cited by a number of organizations, were awarded $100 a year ago in the Rural Neighborhood Progress contest, and $60 in the kitchen Improvement contest.

Loans Aid Small Farmer To Enlarge Home Unit

HARRIS, Okla. — Nearly 80,000 small farmers obtained loans through the Farmers Home Administration during fiscal 1959 to enlarge their undersized units or improve their operations, says a recent report of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Farm ownership loans totaling $64,773,000 went to 4,452 farm families to buy or improve farms, enlarge small units into family-type farms, or refinance farm debts.

Typical of the families that are solving their problem by enlarging their units and increasing their efficiency are Mr. and Mrs. Raymond L. Nelson and their five children of Harris, Okla.

They obtained a loan from Farmers Home three years ago to add 50 acres to their 80-acre farm, buy a few head of beef cattle and three more Poland China brood sows to bring their total up to six, develop improved pastures, purchase fertilizer and insecticides for their cotton crop, and enlarge and modernize their home.

80 HOGS

This year the Nelsons will sell about 80 hogs and a dozen calves in addition to around 20 bales of cotton. They plan to reduce their cotton acreage as soon as they are able to develop more pastures and increase their livestock herds.

Nelson moved from Texas to Oklahoma with his parents nearly 35 years ago, married and began sharecropping cotton. In 1942 he and Mrs. Nelson began buying 80 acres through Farmers Home.

The continued decline in the demand for cotton, which faces stiff competition from paper and synthetic fibers, made it necessary for the Nelsons to acquire more land to develop pastures and add livestock as an additional source of income.

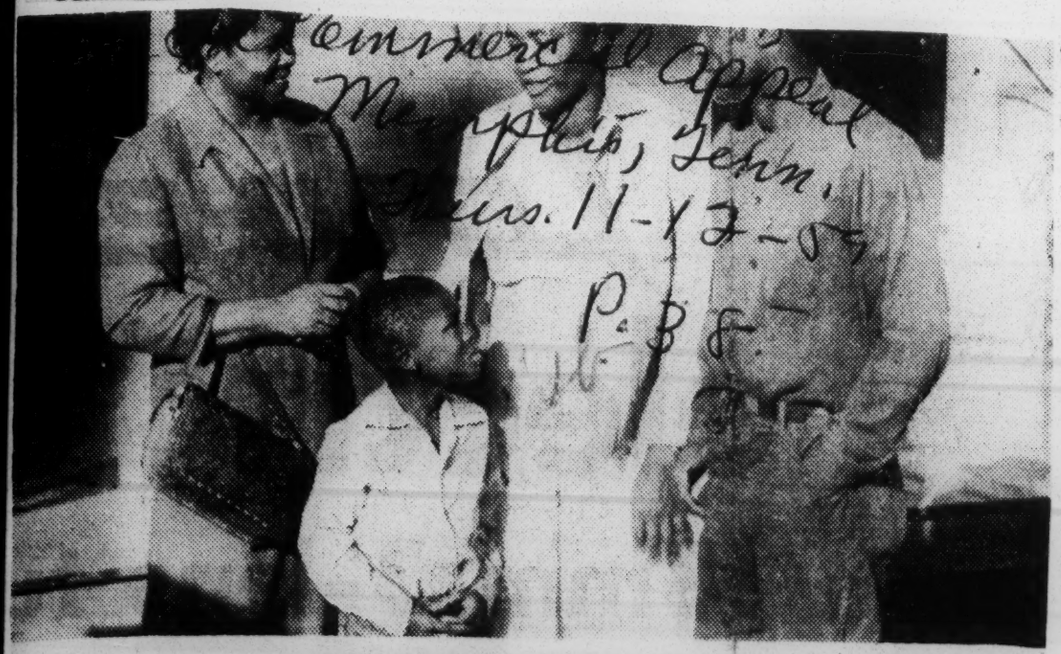
Having made this adjustment, the Nelsons feel that they now have their feet on solid ground. They have had the advice and counsel of their County Farmers Home Supervisor Buster E. Smith and Negro County Extension Agent Andrew B. Murray in developing livestock management know-how.

MORE CATTLE, LESS COTTON — Raymond L. Nelson, right, and one of his sons, S. L., of Harris, Okla., are getting advice on livestock management from Hollis D. Stearns, left, State official of the Farmers Home Administration. The Nelsons have enlarged their farm, added cattle and hogs, and cut back some on cotton. — USDA Photo

THE WINNER—Rev. E. L. Blissett (left) and his wife (second from left) seemed pleased at winning the title of first place landowner in the Negro division of The Commercial Appeal's Plant to Prosper contest in Missouri. Scott County Negro Agent William Purnell (right) and home demonstration agent Martha Farris helped the Blissetts in their successful entry.

HOME IMPROVERS — Winning the home improvement title in Missouri is the subject of conversation here. Miss Martha Farris (right), Negro home demonstration agent in Scott County and William Purnell (second from right), Negro county agent, congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Ed Andrews and their children Edward, 2, and Glenda, 5.

—Staff Photos by Lloyd Dinkins



FIRST TENANT — William H. Artis (right) explains farming practices that brought him the title of first place tenant in the Negro division of Plant to Prosper this year. Mrs. Magnolia Wesson (left), Stoddard County Negro home demonstration agent, Mrs. Artis and Roger Artis, 5, couldn't be happier over the news.

Top P To P Negro Farmers To Rally For Awards Today

By LLOYD DINKINS

There'll be prizes, pork and prosperous planters at The Commercial Appeal's 22nd annual Negro Plant to Prosper Rally at 10 a.m. today, held at Booker T. Washington High School for winners from Arkansas, Mississippi, Missouri and Tennessee.

The rally will bring these champion farmers together with professional agriculture workers from the four states for a day-long celebration of the year's competition.

Principal speaker at the rally will be W. A. Flowers, professor of agriculture education at Tennessee A and I State University and director of field services and extension in Tennessee.

$1,800 To Be Awarded

More than $1,800 will be awarded to winners of state level and sweepstakes titles.

Top prize is the $350 given by The Commercial Appeal and the Memphis Chamber of Commerce to the landowner sweepstakes champion. Another $300 will be awarded to the tenant sweepstakes winner by this newspaper and the Tri-State Fair.

Other cash prizes will be given to state level winners in landowner, tenant and home-improvement classes.

County agricultural workers from the counties of the landowner and tenant sweepstakes winners will receive trophies for their efforts and leadership in producing winners.

The meeting will be called to order by Ernest Brazzle, Negro county agent from Shelby County. John Gammon Jr., Farm Bureau president of Marion, Ark., will preside at the rally.

Others On Program

Representing the Tri-State Fair will be Prof. Blair T. Hunt, fair president and retired principal of Booker T. Washington High School. He will present the tenant sweepstakes award.

Ray Strong, chairman of the Memphis Chamber of Commerce agriculture committee, will present the landowner sweepstakes award.

Others on the program are St. John Waddell, managing editor of The Commercial Appeal, Miss Bessie L. Walton of the Tennessee Extension Service, T. R. Betton, Arkansas Negro agricultural agent, W. E. Ammons, leader in Negro men's work in Mississippi, Mrs. Ella Stackhouse, Home Demonstration agent in Pemiscot and Dunklin Counties, Mo., W. H. Williamson, state agent in Tennessee, and Prof. J. D. Springer, principal of the high school.

Miss Joan Alyce Jones, student at Little Rock, will sing. Other music will be furnished by the Booker T. Washington band. The day's celebration will be graced with a barbecue luncheon served in the school cafeteria.

1b 1959 SOUTH CAROLINA

SUCCESSFUL FARMERS MUST EXPERIMENT WITH CROPS

Even at 80, Sonnie Williams of Anderson, S.C., is still trying his hand at new crops. He learned his lesson about one-crop farming in the 30's when he lost his farm counting mostly on cotton.

Mr. Williams' newest crop is aromatic or Turkish tobacco which is now being increasingly grown in America for use in the manufacture of cigarettes.

And the aged farmer has boldly moved ahead of all his neighbors with five acres of the expensive leaf, largest acreage of any grower for miles around.

Last year it brought him close to $5,000 in gross returns.

"I believe in trying out new crops like I mean it," says Mr. Williams. His record for venturing out, yet paying strict attention to details, has brought professors from Clemson Agricultural College to his farm.

Now he is one of the farmers selected to run crop variety tests for them.

AND HE does some experimenting on his own.

For example, he has discovered a better way to hold the tobacco leaves on the wire rods during the curing process.

He found that little squares cut from rubber inner tubes were just the thing. Now they are widely used by tobacco farmers.

But making innovations and trying out new farm enterprises have been standard practices with Mr. Williams ever since cotton failed him in 1934 and he saw his 240-acre farm slip through his fingers.

It was trying his hand at keeping layers and selling eggs, raising heifers and selling milk to the processing plant, and adopting improved cotton farming practices that enabled him to buy his farm back within three years.

Mr. Williams has never stopped adding enterprises. Ten years ago he began developing improved pastures and building up a beef herd of Aberdeen Angus. Today his herd averages 150 head; last year he marketed 41.

When drought dried up some of his pastures and threatened his herd six years ago, he added hogs as a cash enterprise. Last year he sold 321 head of race porkers from his 44 brood sows. Receipts from hogs, cattle, milk, eggs, and cotton range as high as $18,000 some years.

* * *

WITH THE Williams' on their farm, which has grown to 515 acres, are all but three of their seven sons and one one daughter. Two have already graduated from college, and one is a junior now at Tuskegee.

Mr. Williams was born only a mile or two from his present house, an attractive 10-room dwelling he built mostly with his own hands with timber off his own land nearly 50 years ago.

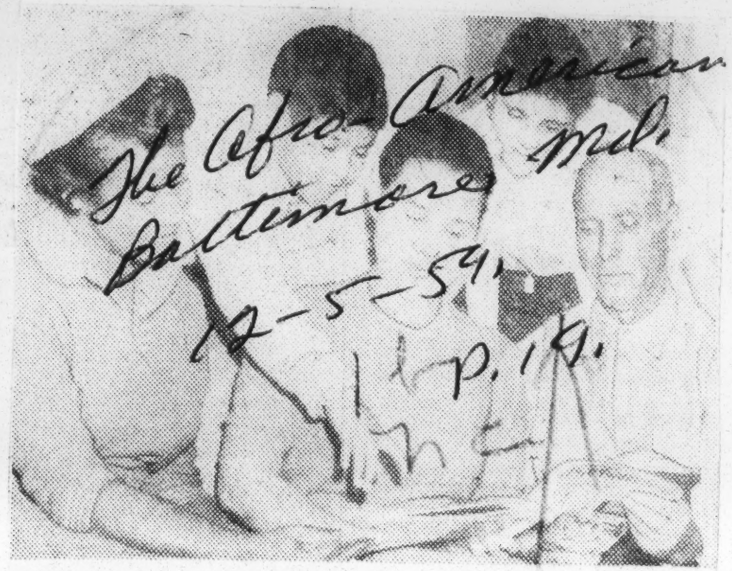
"I built it for my bride," says Mr. Williams who waited 10 more years to make the step.

While farming with his father, he had kept buying a few acres at a time. By the time he carried his bride over the threshold, he owned nearly 200 acres.

"If I had to start all over again," says the octogenarian, "I would look for my county agent first."

Farming efficiency is a continuing objective of the Williamses. They have three tractors and no tenants. "We used to have four families," the father recalls. "Now the tenant houses are rented to folks who work in town."

SONNIE WILLIAMS, right, 80-year-old farmer of Anderson, S.C., and one of his seven sons, Thomas, with a part of their aromatic tobacco crop. Last year, five acres of this crop brought him close to $5,000.



A FAMILY DECISION — Mr. and Mrs. Percy Richardson of Spring Hope, N.C. and their two children, Percy and Gloria, are getting pointers from their home demonstration agent, Mrs. Margaret H. Wade, left, on a new piece of furniture that they are trying to select in a magazine.

Poor farm now grosses $40,000

SPRING HOPE, N.C.—Percy Richardson, who knows what it is to struggle against low yields and crop failures, is the first to tell you that improved methods and good management made his farm into a model for others.

The Richardson family now live in a $30,000 brick rambler and the farm grosses some $40,00 a year.

"It'll soon be time to retire," said Mr. Richardson, but for the present he and his wife are concentrating on the education of their children — Gloria and Percy Jr.

Since he started farming 4 years ago, Mr. Richardson has more than doubled his crop production by shifting from mules to tractors and using other advice given by the North Carolina Extension service.

SUCCESSFUL FARM FAMILY —Mr. and Mrs. Sonnie Williams of Anderson, S. C., are seated on their lawn with their children and one grandson. At left is Mrs. Cynthia Williford, their home agent; and at right is County Agent G. W. Stewart. URDA Photo.

Sonny Williams, At 80, Is Enterprising Farmer

Even at 80, Sonnie Williams of Anderson, S. C., is still trying his hand at new crops. He learned his lesson about one-crop farming in the 30's lhen he lost his farm counting mostly on cotton, says State Supervisor E. N. Williams (no relation) of South Carolina Negro Extension work.

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EXPERIMENTAL FARM

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FARMER'S INVENTION — Sonnie Williams, right, 80-year-old farmer of Anderson, S. C., and one of his seven sons, Thomas, are looking at a small rubber square used to hold aromatic tobacco on wire rods during the curing process. Mr. Williams is said to be the first to use pieces of rubber from old inner tubes for this purpose. Last year his five-acre aromatic tobacco crop brought him close to $5,000. — USDA Photo.

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COUNTY AGENTS

The Williamses have been assisted in many ways by their farm and home demonstration agents — G. W. Stewart and Mrs. Cynthia Williford.

Stewart has given them advice on building terraces, developing pastures, planting better seed, applying the proper amount of fertilizer, acquiring quality livestock, and labor-saving equipment. And Mrs. Williford has given Mrs. Williams pointers on home canning and freezing and on the use of home appliances.

Farming efficiency is a continuing objective of the Williamses. They have three tractors and no tenants. "We used to have four families," the father recalls. "Now the tenant houses are rented to folks who work in town."

When the family starts giving credit for their success, they start with their Extension agents, and move on to Soil Conservation Service, Farmers Home Administration, and the Federal Land Bank. Then they add, "And hard work played a mighty big part, too."

80 And Still Going Strong

Journal & Guide

Aged Farmer's Habit Of Experimenting Pays Off

Norfolk, Va. Sat. 6-6-59

p. 15

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At 80, He's An Inventor, Too

Sonnie Williams, right, 80-year-old farmer of Anderson, S. C., and one of his seven sons, Thomas, are looking at a small rubber square used to hold aromatic tobacco on wire rods during the curing process. Mr. Williams is said to be the first to use pieces of rubber from old inner tubes for this purpose. Last year his five-acre aromatic tobacco crop brought him close to $5,000. (USDA Photo)

AND MR. WILLIAMS has never stopped adding enterprises. Ten years ago he began developing improved pastures and building up a beef herd of Aberdeen Angus. Today his herd averages 150 head; last year he marketed 41.

When drought dried up some of his pastures and threatened his herd six years ago, he added hogs as a cash enterprise. Last year he sold 321 head of meat-type Hampshire-Landrace porkers from his 44 brood sows. Receipts from hogs, cattle, milk, eggs, and cotton range as high as $18,000 some years.

WITH MR. AND Mrs. Williams on their farm, which has grown to 515 acres, are all but three of their seven sons and one daughter. Two have already graduated from college, and one is a junior now at Tuskegee.

Mr. Williams was born only a mile or two from his present house, an attractive 10-room dwelling he built mostly with his own hands with timber off his own land nearly 50 years ago.

"I BUILT IT for my bride," says Mr. Williams who waited 10 more years to make the step.

While farming with his father, he had kept buying a few acres at a time. By the time he carried his bride over the threshold he owned nearly 200 acres.

"IF I HAD to start all over again," says the octogenarian, "I would look for my county agent first.'

The Williamses have been assisted in many ways by their farm and home demonstration agents — G. W. Stewart and Mrs. Cynthia Williford. Mr. Stewart has given them advice on building terraces, developing pastures, planting better seed, applying the proper amount of fertilizer, acquiring quality livestock, and labor-saving equipment. Mrs. Williford has given Mrs. Williams pointers on home canning and freezing and on the use of home appliances.

FARMING efficiency is a continuing objective of the Williamses. They have three tractors and no tenants. "We used to have four families," the father recalls. "Now the tenant houses are rented to folks who work in town."

When the family starts giving credit for their success, they start with their Extension agents, and move on to Soil Conservation Service, Farmers Home Administration, and the Federal Land Bank. Then they add, "And hard work played a mighty big part, too.

BUILDS LAND — BUILDS HOME — Albert W. Johnson, left, of Oakland, Tenn., paved the way for the modern home in background by increasing the productivity of his land. With him by his tractor is James H. Williamson, county supervisor at-large of the Farmers Home Administration which made Mr. Johnson a housing loan.

Rewards Of Industrious Family Is New Farm Home

OAKLAND, Tenn. — By building up the fertility of their land, Mr. and Mrs. Albert W. Johnson of Oakland, Tenn., paved the way for the recent construction of a modern home.

They and their five children have moved out of the old, overcrowded farm house of their tenant-farming days into a new nine-room home built with a loan from the Farmers Home Administration of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

The Johnsons are likely to have no difficulty repaying the four per cent 33-year loan because they have increased their crop yields 300 per cent by building up the fertility of their once poor farm.

TEACHES SCHOOL

Also, there will be another school teacher in the family. A daughter will join Mrs. Johnson who has been teaching for several years. Mother and daughter will graduate this spring from Lane College. All the children have finished high school.

But Johnson, a veteran of World War II, isn't counting too much on school teacher pay. He is depending mainly upon the increased productivity of the Johnsons' land.

Shortly after they began buying 120 acres eight years ago, he applied to their Soil Conservation District for help in developing a sound soil and water conservation program for the low-yield farm. A conservationist assigned to the district helped him map his land, determining how best the slopes and level land should be used.

With further help from Farmers Home County Supervisor James M. Nunnally and County Agent James C. Gregory, the Johnsons developed a system of crop rotation seeded, cover crops in the fall and turned them under in spring, had their soil tested for plant food deficiencies, and applied fertilizer accordingly.

MORE COTTON

The cotton yield gradually rose from 250 pounds of lint per acre to 1,000 pounds; corn output increased from 18 to 52 bushels per acre, and their weedy pastures were converted into good grazing for their Duroc and Poland China hogs and Hereford cattle.

This year they expect to sell 20 calves and 50 hogs. "We would like to level off at 40 brood cows and six sows, and cut back on our 24 acres of cotton," says Johnson.

He and Mrs. Johnson married in 1931 and started farming 10 acres as sharecroppers. At the end of five years, they started renting, having raised two mules from a mare his father gave them.

In 1939 they paid down on 80 acres, but it was too wooded to cultivate. So they continued renting, moving to a 120-acre farm. Twelve years later they began buying the place.

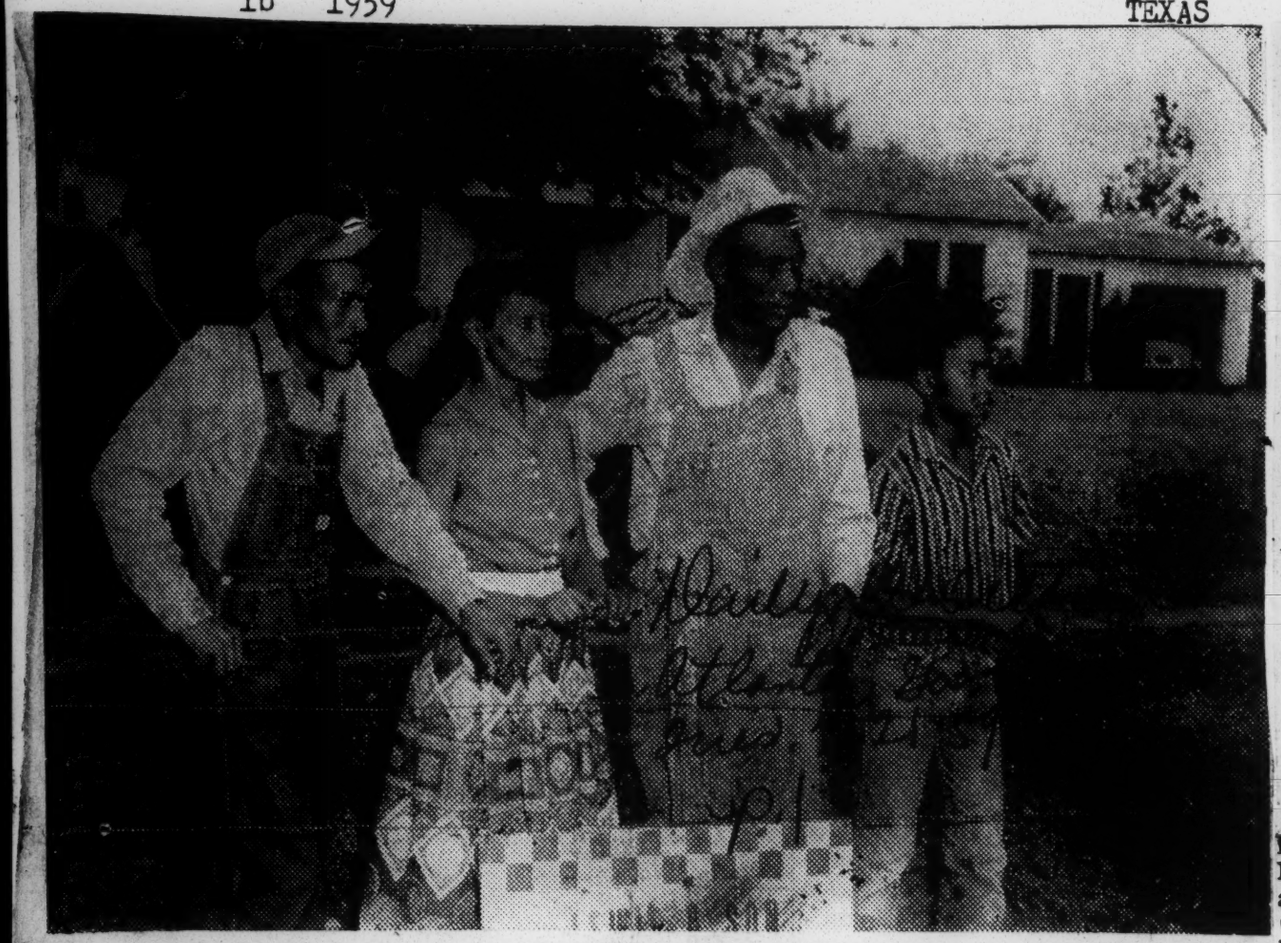
Mr. and Mrs. Johnson wanted to pay for the farm and tractor before building a home, but the children were getting larger, and the old house was just too overcrowded.

GOVERNMENT CREDIT

Unable to get the credit they needed from conventional sources, they applied to Farmers Home which refinanced their farm purchase, increasing their total indebtedness by $7,000—enough with some of their own labor to build their modern brick home.

The members of the family are proud of their new home. They spruce it up every morning before they go to the field to plow, chop, or harvest cotton, corn, sorghum, or other crops.

"We all work hard," says Johnson. "We can pick a bale of cotton a day; and we don't mind the work. . . Our new house makes it worthwhile."



COME A LONG WAY—Mr. and Mrs. Harry Lewis of Sulphur Springs, Tex., and their two sons seem to be viewing the great distance they have come: From 10 years of tenant farming to ownership of a 295-acre dairy and cotton farm that grosses them more than $1,000 a month. At left is Robert, a full partner; and at right is Harry, Jr., an outstandinng 4-H'er and a prospective dairy farmer. In the background are their modern home and a tractor attached to a silage cutter.—(USDA Photo)

Texas Dairy Farmer Earns $1,000 A Month From Grade A Milk Sales

SULPHUR SPRINGS, Texas. — Like thousands of other small farmers who must enlarge their farms into efficient, economic-sized units to survive, Harry Lewis of Sulphur Springs, Texas, once faced this same problem and solved it.

From a small, uncertain income from cotton and grade B milk to a grade A milk check of more than $1,000 a month is the distance Mr. Lewis and his family have traveled within the past seven years partly through credit aide from the Farmers Home Administration.

Last year the agency helped 4,750 farm families to enlarge and develop their farms with loans totaling 62.5 million dollars.

"We probably would have been content to keep going along as we were," says Mr. Lewis, "if our outlet for grade B milk hadn't dried up in 1952."

Then the family was faced with one of two choices: either produce grade A milk for bulk tank delivery, or get out of milk production altogether and depend on growing a cotton crop whenever the back water from the river didn't drown it out.

Apply For Loan

Uncertain as to what to do, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis talked over the problem with their Farmers Home Administration supervisor, Carl Smith, who had helped them make their way out of tenant farming and well along toward the ownership of 125 acres.

After carefully studying their labor and other resources necessary for making good at grade A dairy farming, Mr. Smith advised the family to apply to Farmers Home for a loan to buy more land for pastures, add more cows build a grade A dairy barn, and install a bulk tank and other equipment.

The Lewises applied and the loan was approved. Today they have 295 acres and 67 Jersey cows. The 40 cows now being milked are producing close to 100 gallons a day. Their milk checks average from $1,000 to $1,200 a month.

Their improved and enlarged pastures and 80-ton trench silo of corn and sorghum enable them to keep their feed bill down to around $250 a month.

A JERSEY HERD.—Harry Lewis, right, Sulphur Springs, Texas, and one of his sons, Robert, left, a full partner are discussing pasture improvement for their 67 Jersey cows with C. R. Robinson of the Texas State office of the Farmers Home Administration; and B. Curry a vocational agriculture teacher in the community.—USDA photo.

However, the Lewises are still having trouble with back water. Last year it took 25 of their 37 acres of cotton. But their Soil Conservation district has promise to help them provide adequate drainage for their farm.

Income From Cotton

Although income from their cotton is none too certain, it averages nearly $3,000 a year. In addiion, the family earns better than $1,000 a year doing custom work with their hay baler, silage cutter, and tractors.

And the Lewises are putting their earnins to good use, modernizing their home, buying improved farm machinery, and repaying their loan. They are already 12 years ahead of schedule with their payments.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis were married 28 years ago. They farmed as tenants for 10 years and then obtained a loan from the Farmers Home Administration to buy a farm of their own. They have two sons: 26-year-old Robert and 14-year-old Harry Jr.

Robert took a job in California after he finished high school, but soon tired of it and returned to the farm and is now a full partner. He handles the dairy end of the farm, while his father raises the cotton. "I just like cotton," says Mr. Lewis. "I don't feel that I am farming if I am no raising some cotton."

But in recent years he has been losing interest in cotton. He says now that if he can get his dairy herd up to 100 cows, he is going to quit raising cotton.

C. R. Robinson of the Texas State office of Farmers Home proudly points to the Lewis' farm as an example of the kind of expansion and development other low-income farmers are going to have to do to remain in agriculture and provide a good living for their families.

THEY'VE COME A LONG WAY.—Mr. and Mrs. Harry Lewis (center), of Sulphur Springs, Texas, and their two sons seem to be viewing the great distance they have come: From 10 years of tenant farming to ownership of a 295-acre dairy and cotton farm that grosses them more than $1,000 a month. At the left is Robert, a full partner; and at the right is Harry, Jr., an outstanding 4-H'er and a prospective dairy farmer. In the background are their modern home and a tractor attached to a silage cutter.

—USDA photo.

BULK MILK TANK.—Keeping up with the times, Harry Lewis, left, Sulphur Springs, Texas, and one of his sons, Robert, second from right, have purchased a bulk tank for keeping their milk cool and in top condition until it is pumped into a bulk tank truck for delivery to a dairy in town. With machines they milk 40 cows in less than two hours. Others in the picture are: Carr Smith and C. R. Robinson, county and state supervisors of the Farmer Home Administration; and Harry, Jr., extreme right, Mr. Lewis' 14-year-old son.—USDA photo.

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Ex-Sharecropper Makes Plans For A $54,000; Children Share

CALDWELL, Texas — Like most other farm families, the Dolphus Joneses who own a $54,000 farm near Caldwell, Texas, are busy now making 1959 operating plans. But unlike many families, all eight of the Joneses — from 4-year-old Zudia to her 37-year-old father — are sharing in the planning.

"That's how we got where we are," says Mr. Jones who had to borrow a dollar from his mother 20 years ago to pay the preacher for marrying him and his high school sweetheart.

Today, Mr. and Mrs. Jones and their six children are a model for the state of Texas in farm and home development — the method by which extension workers help families solve their individual farm and home problems.

Visit Prairie View

A year ago Mr. and Mrs. Jones and their children were invited to Prairie View A. & M. college to explain to a graduate class in Farm and Home Development how the program has worked for them. In the class were Extension farm and home demonstration agents from across the South.

Working and planning and solving problems together came natural for Mr. and Mrs. Jones. They got out their lessons together as classmates in high school and marched together in the graduation line in the spring of 1939.

Six months later they marched out of a church together, man and wife. Then they began sharecropping 10 acres of cotton. Limited workstock on the farm didn't faze them; they did much of the work with hand hoes.

And two years later, when they along with several other families applied to the Farmers Home Administration for a loan to buy the only farm left for sale for miles around, it was the hoeing that counted. So impressed were the county supervisor and the committee with the large family garden Mr. and Mrs. Jones had carved out of a brush area with nothing but hoes that they selected them as the family whose loan application they would approve, despite the Joneses' youth.

As Farmers Home borrowers, the Joneses learned much about farm and home planning as a regular part of sound management. Often Mr. and Mrs. Jones sat around the kitchen table going over their budget and discussing their objectives and plans.

When the children came along, the whole family sat around the table once a week reading the Bible and going over the Sunday School lesson. At the end of the Bible reading sessions, the parents often discussed farm and home problems with the children.

Later they organized a family council and made each member an officer. Mr. Jones is chairman and general farm manager, Mrs. Jones is general home manager, 17-year-old Donald is assistant farm manager, 14-year-old Yvonne, assistant home manager, 13-year-old Audrey, secretary, 10-year-old Isaiah, treasurer, 7-year-old Lillian, assistant secretary, and 4-year-old Zudia, sergeant-at-arms.

As the Joneses sit around the table this week with County Agent Alexander B. Rigsby making plans for the year ahead, they will review 1958 achievements, each reporting on the progress he has made toward attaining the goals set a year ago.

33 Goals

That done, each will then state what he wants for himself in 1959 or later and what he thinks is needed in the home and on the farm. For example, last year the family listed 33 short-term and long-term goals. These included the clearing of 30 acres more for pastures, the addition of a breezeway and garage to the home, new curtains for the living room, a desk for Donald's room, planting only hybird seed corn, the purchase of a family car, and college or trade education for the children.

The 30 acres were cleared and seeded, only hybrid corn was planted, Mrs. Jones got her new curtains, Donald, his desk, and some more money was put aside for the children's education. They hope to make the additions to the home and buy a car in '59. For the present, a half-ton pickup truck is providing their transportation.

Making plans year by year and checking on the progress toward attainment every week have worked wonders for the Joneses. The old shack that was their home for the first few years has been replaced by a modern cottage they built all by themselves. Mr. Jones even installed the wiring and plumbing, putting into practice what he learned in school plus what he got out of a book he bought.

The old corn crib has been replaced by a new barn and tool shed; hand hoes have been largely replaced by three tractors, and cotton is giving way to livestock.

The value of their farm is around $54,000. This includes 190 acres valued at $19,000; home, home furnishings, and other buildings, $12.500; farm machinery and equipment, $14,900; and livestock, $7,700. They rent 600 acres mostly for pastures.

The family grosses about $5,000 annually off beef cattle and hogs, $3,500 off cotton, $700 off eggs, $500 of hay, and nearly $2,000 from custom work with their hay baler and other equipment.

Out of an $11,000 to $10,000 annual gross, the Joneses net around $5,000. Every item of expenditure is listed, from $1,382.81 in 1957 for gasoline and oil for the tractors to the $205.45 they put in the church collection.

They recognize that farming is a business, and they are making a success of it by applying modern business practices.

Ex-Sharecropper Owns $54,000 Farm

Making Plans For Addition

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